To: Rules

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By: Representative Scoggin

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 34

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE STELLAR ATHLETIC CAREER 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. STETSON BENNETT IV, UPON LEADING THE 3 UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA BULLDOGS FOOTBALL TEAM TO CAPTURE THE 2021 COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP. 5 WHEREAS, history has been in the making for Blackshear, Georgia native, Stetson Bennett IV since the very first moment he 6 7 donned a high school football uniform and made the fateful step onto the gridiron in Pierce County, a journey that has culminated 8 in his becoming the quarterback for the 2021 College Football 9 Playoff National Champions, the University of Georgia Bulldogs; 10 11 and 12 WHEREAS, before his rise to national acclaim, Stetson 13 transferred to Jones Junior College in 2018 after initially 14 redshirting at the University of Georgia in 2017; and WHEREAS, it was during this JUCO period that Stetson zeroed 15 in on perfecting the precision of his craft, and guided the 16 17 Bobcats to a 10-2 record, the MACJC South Division title, the conference championship game and a 27-7 Mississippi Bowl win over 18 Eastern Arizona; and 19

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- 20 WHEREAS, he passed for 1,840 yards, which was 12th in the 21 NJCAA, and 16 touchdowns, rushed for 148 yards and four 22 touchdowns, and threw for a career-high 314 yards and three
- 23 touchdowns in a 36-34 win over Northwest in the conference
- 24 semifinals; and
- 25 WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett's display of impeccable talent during
- 26 his season at Jones garnered the attention of the University of
- 27 Louisiana coaching staff, which offered him a scholarship, but
- 28 Stetson's dream was to always return to the University of Georgia,
- 29 a dream turned reality when he walked-on at Georgia in 2019 and
- 30 played in five games; and
- 31 WHEREAS, the 2020 pigskin season would usher in Stetson's
- 32 first career start with the Bulldogs, in which he completed 17 of
- 33 28 passes for 240 yards and a touchdown in a 27-6 win over Auburn,
- 34 and would blaze the trail for him to serve as starting quarterback
- 35 in four additional games, one of which resulted in a 44-21 win
- 36 over Tennessee, when he completed 16 of 27 passes for 238 yards
- 37 and two touchdowns, and ushered in the inclusion of his name to
- 38 the Davey O'Brien Award "Great 8" list; and
- 39 WHEREAS, during the 2021 season, Stetson was in full throttle
- 40 control of his team's trajectory for success, starting 12 of the
- 41 14 games he played, including the final 10, which accounted for:
- 42 a 56-7 win over Alabama-Birmingham, when he completed 10 of 12
- 43 passes for 288 yards, a school-record tying five touchdowns, and
- 44 simultaneous National Performer of the Week by the College

- 45 Performance Awards and also earned SEC Co-Offensive Player of the
- 46 Week recognitions; a 34-11 CFP Orange Bowl semifinal win over
- 47 Michigan, during which he completed 20 of 30 passes for 313 yards,
- 48 and three touchdowns, and the honor of being named the game's
- 49 Offensive MVP; and
- 50 WHEREAS, Bennett's climactic 2021 year saw him lead Georgia
- 51 to a 13-1 record and the College Football Playoff National
- 52 Championship, for which he was named Offensive MVP after leading
- 53 the Bulldogs to a 33-18 victory over the Crimson Tide, by
- 54 completing 17 of 26 passes for 224 yards and two touchdowns, and
- 55 directing two fourth guarter touchdown drives with his final two
- 56 passes going for touchdowns of 40 and 15 yards, respectively; and
- 57 WHEREAS, Bennett finished the year ranked fourth nationally
- 58 in passing efficiency (176.7), fourth in yards per completion
- 59 (15.47) and third in yards per pass attempt (9.97), which
- numerically computes to 2,862 yards passing, 185 completed of 287
- 61 pass attempts, 29 touchdowns, tapped as one of three finalists for
- 62 the 2021 Burlsworth Trophy, presented to the country's most
- 63 outstanding player who began his career as a walk-on; and
- WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
- 65 commend the excellence of student-athletes who showcase
- 66 exceptional talent in their respective athletic fields, as made
- 67 evident by the accomplishments of Stetson Bennett IV:
- 68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
- 69 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby

- 70 commend the stellar athletic career accomplishments of Mr. Stetson
- 71 Bennett IV, upon leading the University of Georgia Bulldogs
- 72 Football Team to capture the 2021 College Football Playoff
- 73 National Championship, and extend best wishes for continued
- 74 success in all his future endeavors.
- 75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
- 76 furnished to Stetson Bennett IV and to the members of the Capitol
- 77 Press Corps.

