

By: Senator(s) Seymour, Barnett

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 555

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 STONE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL "LADY CATS" SOCCER TEAM AND HEAD COACH
3 CARISSA HARRISON FOR WINNING THEIR FIRST 4A STATE SOCCER
4 CHAMPIONSHIP IN SCHOOL HISTORY.

5 WHEREAS, we join the team, parents and fans of the Stone High
6 School "Lady Cats" Soccer Team in celebrating the Girls 4A State
7 Soccer Championship on February 5, 2022, held at Brandon. It was
8 Head Coach Carissa Harrison and the Lady Cats' first State Title
9 in school history; and

10 WHEREAS, for Stone High School teammates and coaches alike,
11 winning the Girls 4A State Soccer Championship Title was a dream
12 come true. Head Coach Carissa Harrison already had her heart set
13 on making school history before she ever stepped into her
14 leadership role at Stone High; and

15 WHEREAS, the road to the State Title was never easy. It was
16 rocky. Coaches had to navigate COVID-19 illnesses and quarantines
17 while playing the long game for the experience; and

18 WHEREAS, both boys and girls teams made a pact to battle the
19 biggest and best soccer schools on the Mississippi Gulf Coast to



20 prepare each team for district rivals. The 5A and 6A team
21 matchups started difficult, but Stone High School began to defeat
22 even the larger teams; and

23 WHEREAS, before the girls began the State Championship Game,
24 there was a clear difference in the preparation and maturity
25 between Stone High and New Albany. Before halftime, Stone was up
26 2-0 over New Albany. Senior Morgan Pickering picked up the first
27 goal. Lady Cat Baelyn Smith kicked in a second goal. With 12
28 minutes left, Caroline Batson scored off an assist from Mary Grace
29 Batson. With less than six minutes, Mary Grace Batson kicked a
30 corner and scored on an assist from herself. She arced her kick
31 over a line of New Albany defenders, and the ball went in.
32 Assistant Coach Keith Kennedy said the defensive line worked
33 overtime. The backline consisted of Lexi Conrad, Torrance
34 Rouchon, Arnesha Fairley and Aylesia Hartfield; and

35 WHEREAS, Morgan Pickering was named the game's Most Valuable
36 Player for her offensive strategy on the field. Caroline Batson
37 was honored as the Team Scholar Athlete. To add to the prestige,
38 players Lainey Cunningham and Kendall Burn became the first
39 athletes in Stone High School history to be State Champions in
40 more than one sport, thanks to a previous tennis state title; and

41 WHEREAS, Coach Harrison said the team's secret to success is
42 the team's family atmosphere. Harrison said she hopes their win
43 inspires other female athletes to strive for their goals; and



44 WHEREAS, the 2022 Stone County High School "Lady Cats" Girls
45 Soccer Team Championship Roster is: Leah Capiola, Aylesia
46 Hartfield, Lainey Cunningham, Nevaehlee Necaize, Ava Vetter,
47 Carissa Hester, Laila Ladner, Caroline Batson, Kendall Burn, Laila
48 Bullen, Jill Denham, Alana Sharp, Carey Williams, Baelyn Smith,
49 Arnesha Fairley, Alexis Conrad, Priya Collins, Mary Grace Batson,
50 Emily Smith, Shelby Rader, Torrance Rouchon, Morgan Pickering,
51 Jayla Powell and Jordan Cooper; Head Coach Carissa Harrison; and
52 Assistant Coach Keith Kennedy; and

53 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
54 of student athletes who have brought honor to their school, their
55 community and to the State of Mississippi:

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
57 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
58 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Stone County High School
59 "Lady Cats" Soccer Team and Head Coach Carissa Harrison for
60 winning their first 4A State Soccer Championship in school
61 history, and extend our best wishes to the team, coaches, parents
62 and sponsors for continued success.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
64 Coach Carissa Harrison for the team and Stone High School
65 Principal Adam Stone, forwarded to the Stone County Board of
66 Education, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

