

By: Senator(s) Branning, Barnett, Butler
(38th), Jackson (11th), McCaughn

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 574

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 CHOCTAW CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL "LADY WARRIORS" GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM
3 AND COACH BILL SMITH FOR WINNING THE MHSAA CLASS 4A STATE
4 CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, on March 3, 2022, Choctaw Central Coach Bill Smith
6 led the Warriors to the MHSAA Class 4A State Championship with a
7 56-49 victory over Tishomingo County at the Mississippi Coliseum;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the last time Choctaw Central won a State
10 Championship, the Warriors reigned supreme over Class 3A for
11 back-to-back titles in 2017 and 2018. Choctaw Central is a State
12 Champion once again, but this time in a higher classification; and

13 WHEREAS, "These girls have worked tremendously hard," Coach
14 Smith said. "We put in a game plan to try to slow down Tishomingo
15 County and it worked to perfection. I couldn't ask for anything
16 else from this team"; and

17 WHEREAS, Choctaw Central won its eighth State Championship
18 behind a game-high 20 points and seven rebounds from Sophomore



19 Malaka Morris, who started in the Championship Game after Senior
20 Kyla Farmer was injured in the Semifinals; and

21 WHEREAS, the Warriors led 46-33 at the end of the third
22 quarter and survived a late surge from Tishomingo County (31-4).
23 The Braves trailed 53-49 with 1:12 left. Choctaw Central
24 Sophomore Tayla Willis closed the game out with three free throws,
25 ensuring the Choctaw victory; and

26 WHEREAS, the 2022 Choctaw Central High School Girls
27 Basketball Championship Team Roster is: Jocelyn Bell, Kylinn
28 Bell, Tori Henry, Mattison Bell, Kylie Williamson, Ashlynn
29 Stephens, Kyla Farmer, Chesney Amos, Keshahn Wallace, Malaka
30 Morris, Tyra Billy, Kodi Jimmie, Nataysia Willis, and Tayla
31 Willis; Head Coach Bill Smith and Assistant Coach Elyse Willis;
32 and

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

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
37 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
38 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Choctaw Central High
39 School "Lady Warriors" Girls Basketball Team and Coach Bill Smith
40 for winning the MHSAA Class 4A State Championship, and extend to
41 the team, coaches, parents and sponsors our best wishes for future
42 success.



43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
44 Coach Bill Smith, Choctaw Tribal Chief Cyrus Ben and Choctaw
45 Central Principal Alaric Keams, forwarded to the Choctaw County
46 Board of Education and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

