

By: Senator(s) Sparks

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 597

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 BOONEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL "BLUE DEVILS" BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM AND HEAD
3 COACH MICHAEL SMITH FOR WINNING THE 2022 MHSAA CLASS 3A BOYS STATE
4 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, Booneville Senior Josh Dukes and the Blue Devils put
6 together a stellar defensive performance in the second half to get
7 past Southeast Lauderdale 47-35 to claim the Mississippi High
8 School Activities Association (MHSAA) Boys Class 3A State
9 Championship on March 3, 2022, at the Mississippi Coliseum; and

10 WHEREAS, it is the Blue Devils (27-5) fifth State Title in
11 school history and first State Title since 2011; and

12 WHEREAS, "We felt like we had to play a lot of zone defense,
13 and we started man-to-man because we can't abandon what got us
14 here. When we made the switch, it made them struggle. Our size
15 became a factor, and as our defense goes, our offense goes,"
16 Booneville Head Coach Michael Smith said; and

17 WHEREAS, Southeast Lauderdale (18-11) jumped out to an 8-2
18 lead to begin the game, but Booneville ended the first quarter on
19 an 8-0 run to take a 10-8 led at the end of the opening quarter.



20 The Blue Devils opened the second quarter on a quick 5-0 run to
21 increase their lead to 15-8, but the Tigers closed the first half
22 on a 7-3 run to cut the Booneville lead down to 18-15 at halftime.
23 To begin the third quarter, the Blue Devils went on a 7-1 run to
24 extend their lead to 25-16. Booneville's defense held Southeast
25 Lauderdale to just five points in the third quarter and 2-for-11
26 shooting from the field (18 percent). The Blue Devils held a
27 29-20 lead heading into the fourth quarter. Southeast Lauderdale
28 got back-to-back baskets to begin the fourth quarter and cut the
29 Booneville lead down to five points 29-24, but Kedrick Simmons hit
30 a three-pointer with 6:41 left to extend the Booneville lead to
31 32-24 and the Tigers never got any closer; and

32 WHEREAS, Simmons had 13 points for the Blue Devils. Josh
33 Dukes had a game-high 15 points to lead Booneville and was named
34 the game's "Most Valuable Player." Dicorean McGee added 11 points
35 for Booneville; and

36 WHEREAS, the 2022 Blue Devils Basketball Team Championship
37 Roster: J.J. Brown, L.J. Shumpert, Dalton Jackson, Caleb Gaston,
38 Landon Brown, Kedrick Simmons, Dicorean McGee, Jekemry Bell,
39 Briley McKinney, Clark Janzen, Elijah Shumpert, Trenton Rocker,
40 Josh Dukes, Alec Nunley, James Dukes, Kade White, Riley Barnes,
41 Rokendis Coleman, Elijah Shumpert, Matthew Windham, and Gage
42 Harrelson; and Head Coach Michael Smith, Assistant Coaches Kenny
43 Paul Geno, Chip Johnson, Cole Lauderdale, Micah Moment and Bryant
44 Tynes; and



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

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
49 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
50 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Booneville High School
51 "Blue Devils" Boys Basketball Team and Head Coach Michael Smith
52 for winning the 2022 MHSAA Class 3A Boys State Basketball
53 Championship, and extend to the team, coaches, parents and
54 sponsors our best wishes for future success.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
56 Head Coach Michael Smith and Booneville Principal Bo Sandlin,
57 forwarded to the Booneville School Board, and made available to
58 the Capitol Press Corps.

