

By: Senator(s) Sparks

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 599

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL "LADY CARDINALS" VOLLEYBALL TEAM AND COACH
3 STEPHANIE CLEVELAND FOR WINNING THE 2021 MHSAA 2A STATE
4 CHAMPIONSHIP, THE FIRST IN PROGRAM HISTORY.

5 WHEREAS, the Belmont High School Volleyball Team stormed into
6 the Ridgeland High School Gymnasium on October 23, 2021, and
7 defeated Sacred Heart 3-0 in the 2A Title Game to capture the
8 Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) State
9 Championship in front of a packed house; and

10 WHEREAS, the championship was the first in program history
11 for the Lady Cardinals; and

12 WHEREAS, "These girls are just amazing. We were ready. We
13 knew what it felt like to lose this game, and we were determined
14 not to. I told our girls it's exciting to get here, but a strong
15 weapon is knowing what it's like to lose it," said Belmont Coach
16 Stephanie Cleveland; and

17 WHEREAS, the Lady Cardinals (33-4) were never in danger of
18 coming up short. The first set of the match was the closest one,
19 with Sacred Heart (24-4) taking a 14-13 lead halfway through. But



20 Belmont finished the set on an 11-6 run to take the first game,
21 25-19. Many of Sacred Heart's points came on double-tap errors
22 from Belmont, and it was an adjustment the Lady Cardinals had to
23 make to come away with the victory. The Lady Cardinals poured it
24 on in the second set, breaking a 7-7 tie with a 7-0 run to take a
25 commanding 14-7 lead. Sacred Heart cut it to three points at
26 18-15, but Kathryn Greene and Kerstin Moody kept hammering the
27 back corner with kills and Belmont pulled away to take the second
28 set 25-17. The third set was more of the same, with unforced
29 errors costing the Lady Crusaders in a 25-12 final set; and

30 WHEREAS, Greene earned "Most Valuable Player" honors for her
31 efforts; and

32 WHEREAS, the 2021 Lady Cardinals Championship Roster:
33 Kerstin Moody, Olivia Ivey, Jacey Deaton, Giselle Lopez, Emma
34 Horton, Kate Greene, Cheyenne Hughes, Madasen McCaig, Zoie Hardin,
35 Aubrey Jenkins, Sophie Greene, Sadie Randolph, Anna Karen Merino,
36 Aubree Russell, Sydnee Wilemon and Meredith Eaton; and Coach
37 Stephanie Cleveland; and

38 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize these
39 student athletes who have brought honor to their school, their
40 community and to the State of Mississippi:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
42 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
43 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Belmont High School
44 "Lady Cardinals" Volleyball Team and Coach Stephanie Cleveland for



45 winning the 2021 MHSAA 2A State Championship, the first in program
46 history, and extend to the team, coaches, parents and sponsors our
47 best wishes for continued success.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
49 Coach Stephanie Cleveland for the team and Belmont Principal Jeff
50 Boren, forwarded to the Tishomingo County Board of Education, and
51 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

