

By: Senator(s) Barrett, Barnett, Butler
(38th), Simmons (13th)

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE BROOKHAVEN
2 ACADEMY "LADY COUGARS" SOFTBALL TEAM AND COACH BECKY FLOWERS FOR
3 WINNING THE MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (MAIS)
4 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, on Saturday, October 9, 2021, the dream became a
6 reality as Brookhaven Academy outbattled Silliman Institute 9-5 in
7 game three of their Mississippi Association of Independent Schools
8 (MAIS) 5A State Championship Series. Brookhaven Academy had won
9 game one at home and then Silliman tied the series on their
10 Clinton, Louisiana, homefield; and

11 WHEREAS, the meeting was the eighth of the season for the
12 schools as they played twice during the regular season, twice
13 during the South State Tournament, once during bracket play of the
14 State Tournament, and now three times in the Championship Series.
15 The Lady Cougars ended up with a 5-3 advantage in the overall
16 series, but every game was close and nerve-wracking as the
17 familiarity of meeting that many times turned checkers into chess;
18 and



19 WHEREAS, as the teams swapped handshakes after the game,
20 there were long pauses as the coaches and players from each side
21 stopped and said words of encouragement to one another. This
22 wasn't two groups walking by and slapping hands while saying,
23 "Good game." "We've got a lot of respect for that team over
24 there," said Brookhaven Academy Senior Abby Grace Richardson, as
25 she pointed toward the dugout on the third base line where
26 Silliman was beginning to pack up their things. "They play hard
27 and don't give you anything"; and

28 WHEREAS, from the first pitch of the first practice in the
29 worst heat that a Mississippi summer has to offer, this win was
30 always the goal for the Brookhaven Academy Softball Team. The
31 infield was strewn with discarded gloves and equipment at the
32 teams on-campus softball field. Parents, sibling and other
33 extended family members stood shoulder-to-shoulder on the diamond,
34 jockeying for a better viewing position with iPhone cameras ready.
35 In the middle of it all, wearing their blue pinstripes on a sunny,
36 warm, beautiful October afternoon, stood the Lady Cougars, holding
37 the blue-plated trophy that comes with winning an MAIS State
38 Championship; and

39 WHEREAS, the Brookhaven Academy "Lady Cougars" Softball Team
40 Roster: Madison Moak, Bailee Goodson, Emily Claire Felder, Abby
41 Grace Richardson, Kensy Covington, Maddie Bullock, Annaston Poole,
42 Miriam Wallace, Sasha King, Madelynn Lambert, Karci Case, Bailey
43 Parks, Riley Ruffin, Alayna Daigle, Emme Barrett and Reagan



44 Newman; Head Coach Becky Flowers and Assistant Coach Lisa
45 Covington; Managers Laci Leggett, Jessi Covington, Mattie Leggett
46 and Joleigh Langham; and

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

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
51 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
52 Brookhaven Academy "Lady Cougars" Softball Team and Coach Becky
53 Flowers for winning the Mississippi Association of Independent
54 Schools (MAIS) 5A State Championship, and extend to the team,
55 coaches, parents and sponsors our best wishes for future success.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
57 Coach Becky Flowers for the team, forwarded to Brookhaven Academy
58 Headmaster Jason Case and the Board of Trustees, and made
59 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

