

By: Senator(s) Norwood, Frazier, Blount, Branning, Butler (38th), DeBar, England, Horhn, McDaniel, Simmons (12th), Simmons (13th), Sparks, Thomas

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE JACKSON STATE  
2 UNIVERSITY "TIGERS" FOOTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH DEION SANDERS  
3 UPON WINNING THE 2021 CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, the Jackson State University "Tigers" Football Team,  
5 led by "Coach Prime" Deion Sanders, reigned supreme during the  
6 2021 season, winning its first Southwestern Athletic Conference  
7 (SWAC) Championship since 2007 and completing its first 11-win  
8 season in school history; and

9 WHEREAS, the Tigers, who had a superior season that was  
10 driven by more than just the yearning to succeed, intensely  
11 amplified all of their hard work, motivation and audacity, which  
12 were so apparent all through the season, for the game that  
13 ultimately separated the men from the boys to edge out Prairie  
14 View A&M University 27-10 at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium  
15 in Jackson, Mississippi, on December 4, 2021, and collect the SWAC  
16 Football Championship; and

17 WHEREAS, during the championship game that kept fans on the  
18 edge of their seats for the entire 60 minutes of play, the Tigers



19 were losing 10-7 in the second quarter, and the momentum was not  
20 in their favor, but once Isaiah Bolden fielded a kick at the  
21 Tigers' 9-yard line, sidestepped a defender, and broke away for a  
22 91-yard kickoff return and touchdown, the Tigers never trailed  
23 again. Linebacker James Houston, Wide Receiver Warren Newman and  
24 Cornerback Isaiah Bolden were named to the Stats FCS All-American  
25 Team; and

26 WHEREAS, Isaiah Bolden, the SWAC's top return specialist,  
27 came into the championship game leading the SWAC in kick return  
28 yards with 500 in eight games, and his kickoff return for a  
29 touchdown tied Bethune Cookman's Darnell Deas for the SWAC lead  
30 with two; and

31 WHEREAS, The old saying goes, "Defense wins championships."  
32 It certainly held true during the championship game, as the  
33 Tigers' defense erected an impenetrable stone wall that not only  
34 kept the pressure heavy and prevented the Prairie View quarterback  
35 from being able to get truly comfortable in the pocket but also  
36 allowed the Tigers' defense to collect four sacks, each by a  
37 different player; and

38 WHEREAS, James Houston, who is among the leaders in FCS for  
39 sacks, opened the lead up to double-digits on an interception  
40 return for a touchdown in the third quarter. Cam'Ron Silmon-Craig  
41 also added a pair of interceptions and Aubrey Miller passed 100  
42 tackles for the season; and



43           WHEREAS, the team's statistics were impressive this season,  
44 and there were outstanding performances by individual players, but  
45 the key to the team's remarkable success has been the constant  
46 team positive attitude and year-round hard work by the following  
47 talented student-athletes: Josh Lanier; Shedeur Sanders; C.J.  
48 Holmes; Aalah Brown; De'Jahn Warren; Shane Hooks; Kev'ric Wiggins;  
49 John Huggins; Keith Corbin, III; J.D. Martin; Al Young; Warren  
50 Newman; Cam'ron Silmon-Craig; Greyson Thompson; Malachi Wideman;  
51 Christian Allen; Trevonte Rucker; Damon Bell; Cedrick Moffett, II;  
52 Errick Simmons; Demonte Holliman; Kare' Lyles; Tim Robinson; Caleb  
53 Jolivette; Herman Smith, III; Shilo Sanders; Peyton Pickett;  
54 Isaiah Bolden; Desmond Moultrie; Tyson Alexander; Anthony Petty;  
55 Randall Haynie; Trey Lockhart; Kevin May; Lane McGregor; Greg  
56 Williams; Javien Adams; Glenn Misiak; Bailey Raborn; Jacob Polite;  
57 Santee Marshall; Noah Anderson; Keonte Hampton; James Houston;  
58 Jeremiah Brown; Frankie Dunn; Daelyn Dunn; Aubrey Miller, Jr.;  
59 C.J. Nunnally; Baron Hopson; Marcus O'Neal; Kaleb Graham; Cedric  
60 Dunbar; Khalil Arrington; Donald Turley; Abdul-Malik McClain;  
61 Nyles Gaddy; Lafonzo Ruffin; Tyler Wells; Amari Catchings; Jakob  
62 Cunningham; Vincent Sampson; Braxton Bailey; Deontae Graham; James  
63 Reddick, II; Stephen Singleton; Rufus Carl Jones; Paxton Branning;  
64 Kirk Ford; Charlton Goodell; Demetri Jordan; Tony Gray; Jevonte  
65 Gardner; John Mitchell; Charles Armstrong; Tre Johnson; Jency  
66 Riley; David Studstill; Kobe Paul; Kortlon Hubbard; Kyland Richey;  
67 D.J. Stevens; Daniel Crowell, Jr.; Chad Turner; Katron Evans;



68 Tredarius Carr; Justin Ragin; Tre'von Riggins; Coynis Miller;  
69 Jeremiah Williams; Jaumonie Crain; Devonta Davis; Ke'Shawn  
70 Brinkley; Antwan Owens; Markeyvrick Eddie; Donovan Hunt; Head  
71 Coach, Deion Sanders; Assistant Coach/Quarterbacks, Michael  
72 Pollock; Assistant Coach/Wide Receivers, Jason Phillips; Assistant  
73 Coach/Running Backs, Gary Harrell; Assistant Coach/Linebackers,  
74 Andre' Hart; Assistant Coach/Special Teams, Alan Ricard; Assistant  
75 Coach/Offensive Line, Mike Markuson; Assistant Coach/Defensive  
76 Line, Jeff Weeks; Assistant Coach/Cornerbacks, Kevin Mathis;  
77 Director of Player Personnel, Otis Riddley; Offensive  
78 Coordinator/Tight Ends Coach, T.C. Taylor; Defensive Coordinator,  
79 Dennis Thurman; and Director of Internal Operations and Liaison  
80 for Academics, Latoya M. Williams; and

81 WHEREAS, Jerry Rice, Doug Williams and of course the legend,  
82 JSU's own Walter Payton, all came from historically black colleges  
83 and universities which have a rich history in football; and

84 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this  
85 award-winning team of university athletes and their award-winning  
86 coaches, who have brought honor and national attention to Jackson  
87 State University and to the Capital City:

88 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
89 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the  
90 Jackson State University "Tigers" Football Team and award-winning  
91 Coach Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders for a remarkable program record  
92 11-win season and for winning the Southwestern Athletic Conference



93 (SWAC) Title for the first time since 2007, and extend to Coach  
94 Prime and his assistants, the team, parents, sponsors and support  
95 staff our best wishes for future success.

96 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
97 Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders for the JSU Tigers, JSU President,  
98 Thomas K. Hudson, forwarded to the Board of Trustees of State  
99 Institutions of Higher Learning and made available to the Capitol  
100 Press Corps.

