

By: Representative Tullos

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 71

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE RALEIGH HIGH  
2 SCHOOL "LIONS" FOOTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH RYAN HIGDON FOR  
3 WINNING THE 2022 MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION  
4 (MHSAA) CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, Raleigh High School captured the 2022 trophy as the  
6 MHSAA Class 3A Champions; and

7 WHEREAS, this win comes after the school came up short in its  
8 only other Mississippi Championship Game appearance twenty-seven  
9 years ago; and

10 WHEREAS, the Lions claimed the championship title by  
11 defeating Noxubee County, 55-52, in a 3A Title Game that featured  
12 the most combined points of any MHSAA State Championship Game  
13 since at least 1981; and

14 WHEREAS, a riveting game by all accounts, the game emerged as  
15 a clash of two athletic giants on the offensive side of the ball:  
16 four-star Ole Miss commit Suntarine Perkins for Raleigh (14-1) and  
17 Sophomore Quarterback Kamario Taylor for the Tigers (10-5), with  
18 Perkins carrying the ball 32 times for 331 yards and four



19 touchdowns, but it was a play he made on the defensive side of the  
20 ball that secured the school's historic win; and

21 WHEREAS, Perkins undercut a Noxubee County receiver to  
22 intercept and set Raleigh up at the Tigers' 23-yard line after the  
23 Lions turned the ball over on downs midway through the fourth  
24 quarter with a one-point lead and fought through contact for a  
25 16-yard touchdown to help secure the win with spectator coaches  
26 Rebels Coach Lane Kiffin and Alabama Defensive Coordinator Pete  
27 Golding in attendance; and

28 WHEREAS, even though the Tigers carried a one-point lead into  
29 the halftime locker room thanks to two first-half fumbles by  
30 Raleigh, the Lions recovered going ahead with a 55-46 with 2:37  
31 left on Perkins' touchdown and subsequent two-point conversion;  
32 and

33 WHEREAS, "We've been working at this since we were five and  
34 six years old with the same group of boys I'm with now," Perkins  
35 said. "To be able to win our first 3A Championship, it's  
36 amazing"; and

37 WHEREAS, "When I got here, this was our goal," Raleigh Coach  
38 Ryan Higdon said. "The community finally just started believing,  
39 and they've been behind us all year. This is as much for them as  
40 it is for me, our staff, our kids"; and

41 WHEREAS, the 2022 Raleigh "Lions" Championship Roster  
42 includes: Jermaine Keyes, Jay Owens, Hayden Bowen, Suntarine  
43 Perkins, Javarious Walker, Kyvryn Moncrief, Jordan Coleman, Jacob



44 Bowen, Rodriquez Heard, Marcus Perkins, Isaiah Strickland,  
45 Jamarcus Mccullum, Shamir Horne, Tanner Middleton, Mason Smith,  
46 Deuce Carter, Kendrayln Keyes, Ladarrius Jordan Watts, Brandon  
47 Laird, Joell Page, Zack Smith, Eli Eason, Jaylin Owens, CJ  
48 Moncrief, Jabryint Clark, Caleb Murray, Royce Howze, Jalik Jones,  
49 Demonta Keyes, Brendon Harper, Daniel Allen, Kentrell Keyes, Clay  
50 Craft, Iman Gavin, Jacob Harris, Jamarion Owens, Matthew Roberts,  
51 Jeteric Ellis, Jayden Wilbon, Jayden Roberts, Samuel Houston,  
52 Braden McKinley, Jeffrey Allen, Jessie Maas, Connor Adcock, Gage  
53 Covington, Logan Dearman, Jacob Keyes and Colton Worrell; Head  
54 Coach, Ryan Higdon; and Assistant Coaches: Michael Allen, Stuart  
55 Dickerson, Larry Means and Jared Smith; and

56 WHEREAS, since the team's major championship win, it has  
57 suffered two major losses with the passing of two of their beloved  
58 players Isaiah Strickland and Ethan Adcock who lost their lives  
59 suddenly; and

60 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
61 celebrate the accomplishments of student athletes who positively  
62 contribute to their school's athletic record while displaying  
63 immense sportsmanship:

64 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
65 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
66 commend and congratulate the Raleigh High School "Lions" Football  
67 Team and Head Coach Ryan Higdon for winning the 2022 Mississippi  
68 High School Activities Association Class 3A State Championship and



69 extend our best wishes to the team, coaches, parents and sponsors  
70 for future success.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be furnished to  
72 Coach Ryan Higdon, members of the championship team, Raleigh  
73 Principal Staci Hughes and to the members of the Capitol Press  
74 Corps.

