

By: Representative Weathersby

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 119

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE 2022-2023 SIMPSON  
2 ACADEMY LADY COUGARS BASKETBALL TEAM UPON THEIR OUTSTANDING  
3 SEASON.

4 WHEREAS, with an overall 31-6 season, the Simpson Academy  
5 Lady Cougars Basketball Team's mental stamina and athletic prowess  
6 never wavered from the moment they first hustled onto the court  
7 until the final buzzer buzzed, as they outlasted, and ultimately  
8 outplayed many of their opponents, some of which include: Leake  
9 Academy (48-36) on February 4, 2023, winning the MAIS (Midsouth  
10 Association of Independent Schools) 5A District 2 Championship;  
11 Starkville Academy (54-41) on February 8, 2023; Heritage Academy  
12 in Columbus, Mississippi, (40-37) on February 10, 2023; Pillow  
13 Academy in Greenwood, Mississippi, (49-33) on February 11, 2023;  
14 and Bowling Green in Franklinton, Louisiana, (67-48) on February  
15 15, 2023; and

16 WHEREAS, for each game, the Lady Cougars relied on their  
17 swift feet, accurate shooting and strategic moves, which  
18 ultimately allowed them to dominate the basketball court; and



19 WHEREAS, the 2022-2023 Lady Cougars team is comprised of the  
20 following extraordinary student-athletes: Carson Carter, Ava  
21 Korba, Karlee Holbrook, Maddie Craft, Annalea Bryant, Ava Dunn,  
22 Olivia Hodum, Maggie Shivers, Lauren Brown, Danni Cooper, Jayda  
23 Smith, Olivia Banes, Brooke Blackledge, Payton Purvis and Kylin  
24 Chisholm; and

25 WHEREAS, the Lady Cougars have been superbly coached and  
26 tremendously inspired by Head Coach Linda Barlow Dear, who has  
27 broadened the players' knowledge of the game and refined their  
28 skills in execution; and

29 WHEREAS, Coach Dear continues to build upon the legacy of  
30 superior play and true sportsmanship forged by the tenacious and  
31 undaunted spirit of each team member, as evidenced in her ability  
32 to produce high caliber players and plays, and by the team's  
33 successful season; and

34 WHEREAS, the members of this team will surely carry the  
35 unforgettable memories they made along the way, whether it be the  
36 long hours of grueling practices, or the lessons of hard work,  
37 dedication and perseverance learned during this amazing season,  
38 throughout their lives as they are constantly flooded with the  
39 feeling of greatness that accompanies being an exceptional  
40 student-athlete; and

41 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
42 recognize and commend excellence, especially that displayed by the  
43 Lady Cougars, and it is with great pride that we congratulate this



44 elite group of student-athletes, and Coach Dear, who have brought  
45 honor to Simpson Academy and to the State of Mississippi:

46       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
47 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
48 commend and congratulate the Simpson Academy Lady Cougars  
49 Basketball Team and Head Coach Linda Barlow Dear upon the team's  
50 outstanding season, and extend best wishes for continued success  
51 in all their future endeavors.

52       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
53 furnished to Head Coach Linda Barlow Dear and to the members of  
54 the Capitol Press Corps.

