

By: Representative Denton

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 176

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING LAYLA CARTER ON
2 BEING SELECTED AS MISS BASKETBALL FOR CLASS 5A BY THE MISSISSIPPI
3 HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION AND THE 2023 VICKSBURG POST
4 GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR.

5 WHEREAS, Vicksburg High School senior guard Layla Carter was
6 named Miss Basketball for Class 5A by the Mississippi High School
7 Activities Association (MHSAA) and the 2023 Vicksburg Post Girls
8 Basketball Player of the Year; and

9 WHEREAS, Layla is the daughter of Kimberley Vaughn and Larry
10 Carter, Jr., and she models her game after her favorite basketball
11 player, Kobe Bryant, whose main lesson is to never be satisfied
12 with yourself but to always be better, so she tries to
13 continuously better herself, both on and off the court; and

14 WHEREAS, at a young age, Layla began playing basketball at
15 the Vicksburg YMCA, where her father helped develop her skills in
16 the beginning, and later, she met trainer, Alexis Stirgus, who
17 helped take her talent to another level; and

18 WHEREAS, Layla went on to play at Vicksburg Junior High
19 School before dominating on the ninth-grade team in 2019-2020,



20 leading the Missy Gators to an undefeated season under freshman
21 Head Coach Deatra Cable; and

22 WHEREAS, during her freshman year, Vicksburg reached the
23 Class 5A semifinals, and since then, she has averaged 13 points,
24 eight rebounds, three assists and two and one-half steals per game
25 in her sophomore and junior seasons, and she averaged 22 points,
26 seven rebounds, five assists and two blocks per game during her
27 senior season, and her team won 81 games in her four years as a
28 starter; and

29 WHEREAS, during her senior year, Layla's team, the Missy
30 Gators, finished 25-6 and won their fourth consecutive MHSAA
31 Region 4-5A tournament championship under the leadership of Head
32 Coach Troy Stewart, and she was selected as a Dandy Dozen in both
33 her junior and senior year and earned the reputation as one of the
34 quickest players on the court; and

35 WHEREAS, in addition to her natural talent, Layla has an
36 unparalleled work ethic, and to help become a better basketball
37 player, she not only plays on the AAU circuit but also runs track,
38 which helps with her speed, conditioning and quickness on defense;
39 and

40 WHEREAS, she may be a senior basketball star now, but her
41 career on the court is far from over, as she has signed to play
42 Division II basketball with the University of Southern Arkansas in
43 Magnolia, Arkansas, where she will be reunited with assistant
44 coach and her former trainer, Alexis Stirgus; and



45 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
46 recognize and commend outstanding Mississippians, especially those
47 such as Layla Carter, whose hard work and zealous dedication to
48 her team have brought honor to the Vicksburg community and to the
49 State of Mississippi:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
51 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
52 commend and congratulate Layla Carter on being selected as Miss
53 Basketball for Class 5A by the Mississippi High School Activities
54 Association and the 2023 Vicksburg Post Girls Basketball Player of
55 the Year, and extend best wishes for continued success in all her
56 future endeavors.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
58 furnished to Layla Carter and to the members of the Capitol Press
59 Corps.

