

By: Senator(s) Barrett

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 546

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

5 WHEREAS, on October 6, 2022, the Brookhaven Academy "Lady
6 Cougars" Softball Team stocked with young "Cougars" put their
7 names in the annals of Brookhaven Academy lore with a dominating
8 11-1 win over Oak Forest Academy giving the school a second
9 straight MAIS 5A State Championship. With only two seniors on the
10 roster and new Head Coach Lisa Covington, the "Lady Cougars" came
11 into the season with lots of unanswered questions; and

12 WHEREAS, the team was still coming together, when district
13 play rolled around. They dropped a pair of division games to
14 Columbia Academy and Oak Forest Academy, but still won District
15 4-5A on the last day of the regular season. Next was the 5A South
16 State Tournament, an event that Brookhaven Academy hosted at the
17 Hansel King Sports Complex. The Lady Cougars won three straight
18 games in strong fashion before meeting up with Oak Forest in the
19 Championship Game. Oak Forest Academy needed to beat Brookhaven



20 Academy twice to win the title, while Covington's Cougars could
21 finish the tournament with a single win over the Yellow Jackets
22 from Amite, Louisiana. Oak Forest won a squeaker 7-6 in the
23 opener and then took the tournament with a 4-0 win; and

24 WHEREAS, the MAIS 5A State Tournament looked to have a loaded
25 field and started less than a week after the disappointment of 5A
26 South State ended. Someone must have forgotten to tell these
27 "Cougars" that they were supposed to be underdogs. They defeated
28 Bayou 4-2, East Rankin 3-1 and Copiah Academy 3-1, putting
29 themselves into the Championship Series against Oak Forest, the
30 same Oak Forest team that held a 3-1 advantage over Brookhaven
31 Academy in the four meetings between the schools earlier in the
32 season. Coach Covington and her "Lady Cougars," a team that
33 started with more freshman than seniors, absolutely destroyed Oak
34 Forest. On October 5, Brookhaven Academy took game one at home in
35 front of a huge crowd by a 10-4 final; and

36 WHEREAS, on October 6, Brookhaven Academy clinched the title
37 by breaking open a close game with seven runs in the sixth inning.
38 Sophomore Bailey Parks drove in two runs. Freshman Miriam Wallace
39 drove in two runs. Sophomore Anniston Poole drove in two runs,
40 and freshman Alayna Daigle drove in two runs. The bats woke up in
41 a big way on the biggest stage of the season. Brookhaven Academy
42 also got an RBI each from freshman Morgan Chemin and junior
43 Ainslee Jergins. Sophomore Pitcher Kensity Covington battled
44 through an injury for another winning appearance in the circle to



45 finish off the title run. Covington threw 86 pitches in seven
46 innings. She struck out three, walked none, and gave up one
47 unearned run on eight hits; and

48 WHEREAS, the new head coach, Coach Lisa Rushing Covington, is
49 a name that goes hand-in-hand with softball in the Brookhaven
50 area. Covington coached softball from 1994 until 2010 at
51 Brookhaven High School. She has won a lot of games as a head
52 coach, none sweeter though than seeing her daughter, Kensy
53 Covington, get the final out to defeat Oak Forest. As the team
54 piled out of the dugout for the "dog pile," its head coach was one
55 of the first ones there; and

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

59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
60 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
61 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Brookhaven Academy "Lady
62 Cougars" Softball Team and Coach Lisa Covington for winning their
63 second consecutive Mississippi Association of Independent Schools
64 (MAIS) 5A State Championship, and extend to the team, coaches,
65 parents and sponsors our best wishes for future success.

66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
67 Coach Lisa Covington for the team, forwarded to Brookhaven Academy
68 Headmaster Jason Case and the Board of Trustees, and made
69 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

