

By: Senator(s) Tate, Butler (38th), McCaughn To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 43

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE RUSSELL
2 CHRISTIAN ACADEMY "WARRIORS" FOOTBALL TEAM FROM MERIDIAN,
3 MISSISSIPPI, AND COACH ANDY BRADDOCK FOR WINNING THEIR SIXTH
4 CONSECUTIVE ALABAMA CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION STATE
5 CHAMPIONSHIP.

6 WHEREAS, John Benny Jones scored one touchdown for each of
7 Russell Christian Academy's six state championships in six years,
8 including the winning touchdown on November 5, 2022, in
9 Tuscaloosa, Alabama; and

10 WHEREAS, the Russell Christian Academy senior quarterback
11 threw for 336 yards and three touchdowns against Jacksonville
12 Christian and also rushed for 170 yards and three scores as the
13 "Warriors" defeated the Jacksonville "Thunder" 44-22 at Tuscaloosa
14 Christian to win the "Warrior's" sixth-straight Alabama Christian
15 Education Association Eight-Man Football State Championship; and

16 WHEREAS, it capped off a strong season for Jones, who was
17 named the game's Most Valuable Player. In addition, Jones was
18 selected as an All-Conference Linebacker and the All-Around Player
19 of the Year in the ACEA's Eight-Man Football League, also known as



20 the Christian Football Association (CFA). "I loved it because it
21 was my last year, and I had to go out with a bang," Jones said;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, with five state championships entering the contest,
24 it may have felt like a given that Russell Christian Academy would
25 end up on top at the end of the season, but Coach Braddock said it
26 was far from a sure thing in 2022. "Nobody felt like we would be
27 here tonight," Braddock said. "This group just has more grit than
28 any team I've ever coached and just had heart all year. We were
29 behind in several games and went into halftime being behind, and
30 they came back and won it, which just shows the grit they have";
31 and

32 WHEREAS, Gabe Brinson finished with 137 yards receiving to
33 lead RCA, and Dennis Childress had nine tackles and three sacks on
34 defense. Aiden Burns caught two interceptions for the "Warriors,"
35 and Russell Christian Academy also recovered two fumbles on
36 defense, one inside its own red zone early in the game. Russell
37 Christian Academy's Noah Harbour was named an All-Conference
38 Offensive Lineman in the CFA, while Childress was an
39 All-Conference Defensive Lineman. Darden was selected
40 All-Conference Defensive Back, and Gabe Brinson made
41 All-Conference as Wide Receiver; and

42 WHEREAS, the 2022 Russell Christian Academy Championship
43 Roster is: Kam Darden, Dennis Childress, Matthew Williams, Seth
44 Garrett, Aiden Null, Aiden Burns, Maddox Neal, Decker McKenzie,



45 Carter Simmons, John Benny Jones, JB Jones, Gabriel Brinson,
46 Chance Null, Jonathan Roberts, Eli Hodges, Hunter Jarman, Josh
47 Ropp, Jace Wiggins, Noah Harbour, Sam Garcia, Ty Jones, Caleb
48 Purvis and Head Coach, Andy Braddock; and

49 WHEREAS, Russell Christian Academy was founded in 2004 and
50 exists as a ministry of Russell Baptist Church to partner with
51 parents in equipping students to embrace Biblical truth, achieve
52 their God-given potential, and engage the culture for the cause of
53 Christ. Students in the school are provided a Christian education
54 that challenges each one spiritually, morally, socially,
55 physically, and academically; and

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

59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
60 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
61 Russell Christian Academy "Warriors" Football Team from Meridian,
62 Mississippi, and Coach Andy Braddock for winning their sixth
63 consecutive Alabama Christian Education Association State
64 Championship, and extend to the team, coaches, parents, and
65 sponsors our best wishes for future success.

66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
67 Coach Andy Braddock for the team and forwarded to Russell
68 Christian Headmaster Dr. Sean Burleson, to the Russell Christian



69 Board of Trustees and be made available to the Capitol Press
70 Corps.

