

By: Senator(s) Simmons (13th), Simmons
(12th), Butler (38th)

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 78

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MCEVANS HIGH
2 SCHOOL "WARRIORS" BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACH ERIC HENRY FOR
3 WINNING THE MHSAA CLASS 1A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, behind a defense that forced 31 turnovers and the
5 play of Brandon Hall and Jalen Smith, the McEvans High School
6 "Warriors" raced past McAdams 67-48 to claim the MHSAA Boys Class
7 1A State Basketball Championship on March 2, 2023, at the
8 Mississippi Coliseum; and

9 WHEREAS, it was McEvans (24-6) fifth State Title in school
10 history and first since 2015, when the school was known as Shaw
11 High School; and

12 WHEREAS, "The full-court press is something we haven't been
13 using at all postseason and it was something that caught them off
14 guard," said McEvans Coach Eric Henry. "Forcing turnovers that
15 led to easy baskets is something we've done all year"; and

16 WHEREAS, McAdams jumped out to a 9-3 lead to begin the game
17 and eventually held a 16-6 lead at the end of the quarter. After
18 that, it was all "Warriors." McEvans went on a 18-2 run in the



19 second quarter to take a 24-18 lead and held a 24-21 halftime
20 lead. A 10-2 run to begin the second half stretched the
21 "Warriors'" lead out to 34-23 and a 8-0 run to end the third
22 quarter gave McEvans a 42-27 lead headed to the fourth. The final
23 period was more even than the last two, but the "Warriors'" lead
24 never dwindled below nine points. Brandon Hall and Jalen Smith
25 each had 18 points to lead McEvans, while Edward Smith added 11
26 points for the "Warriors"; and

27 WHEREAS, "This State Championship means a lot to us and to
28 the community," Coach Henry stated. "I started with these kids
29 when they were in 10th grade and we lost last year in the
30 semifinals and we were going to do what we needed to do to get
31 back here and we did"; and

32 WHEREAS, the 2022-2023 "Warriors'" Boys Basketball
33 Championship Team Roster is: Omarion Blake, Jalen Smith, Brenton
34 Hall, Jordan McDaniel, Brandon Hall, Elijah Johnson, Bryan Dotson,
35 Antone Kirkland, Edward Smith, Delvin Jordan, Treyshawn Thomas,
36 Raysheed Hornes, Tanari Cooper, and Rodrick Phillips; and Head
37 Coach Eric Henry; and

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

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
42 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
43 McEvans School "Warriors" Boys Basketball Team and Coach Eric



44 Henry for winning the MHSAA Class 1A State Championship, and
45 extend the best wishes of the Mississippi Senate to the team,
46 coaches, parents and sponsors for future success.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
48 Coach Eric Henry and McEvans Principal Tracy Dunn for the team,
49 forwarded to the Bolivar County School Board and made available to
50 Capitol Press Corps.

