

By: Representatives Lott, Barton, Burch

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE  
2 GEORGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LADY REBELS FAST PITCH SOFTBALL TEAM AND  
3 HEAD COACH KASEY MCCANN UPON WINNING THEIR FIRST EVER MISSISSIPPI  
4 HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION CLASS 5A FAST PITCH SOFTBALL  
5 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

6 WHEREAS, the 2023 George County High School Fast-Pitch  
7 Softball Team clinched a well-deserved victory when they defeated  
8 the Saltillo High School Fast-Pitch Softball Team to win their  
9 first ever Mississippi High School Activities Association Class 5A  
10 Fast-Pitch Softball State Championship; and

11 WHEREAS, striving to win with unparalleled motivation and  
12 ardent determination, the Lady Rebels played their best games of  
13 the season during the championship series, as their mental stamina  
14 and athletic prowess never wavered from the moment they first  
15 walked onto that red, dusty diamond until the last out was made;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the championship matchup ended as a thrilling 2-1  
18 victory over Saltillo in Game 2 of the state championship series  
19 held at the Southern Miss Softball Complex in Hattiesburg,



20 Mississippi, on May 18, 2023, and it forever etched this George  
21 County team not only in the trophy case, but also in the history  
22 books; and

23 WHEREAS, the Saltillo Lady Tigers struck first in the top of  
24 the second inning, but George County escaped the jam with a 9-6  
25 double play and then promptly answered back in the bottom of the  
26 third with a run of their own, as Jordyn Bradley scored on a  
27 passed ball following a lead-off triple; and

28 WHEREAS, the 1-1 score would remain until the bottom of the  
29 sixth, when Natalie Jones started a two-out rally with a double  
30 all the way to the left field wall, and Saltillo then made the  
31 curious decision to walk three-hole hitter Ashton Fairley, which  
32 sent Sidnee Beech to the plate for the biggest at-bat of her life;  
33 and

34 WHEREAS, while the fans of both teams watched with bated  
35 breath, the junior came through with an opposite field RBI single  
36 into right field, sending Jones to the dish for a 2-1 lead; and

37 WHEREAS, despite Addison Davis' complete dominance through  
38 six innings, the Lady Rebels turned to their eighth grade ace  
39 Peyton Collins in the top of the seventh inning; and

40 WHEREAS, with one out and runners on first and second, Beech  
41 fired a snap throw over to third base, and later applied the tag  
42 in a rundown for the second out of the inning, before firing over  
43 to Bradley to apply what the Lady Rebels thought was the final out  
44 at second base; and



45           WHEREAS, with the dogpile already underway, the umpire  
46           exclaimed he had called for obstruction at second base, so the  
47           game deferred back to a two-strike count with two outs, but the  
48           Lady Rebels did not let this call distract from their dreams, so  
49           Collins stepped back up to the pitcher's mound and put the  
50           finishing touches on George County's state championship game  
51           victory with a swinging strikeout, and naturally, another dogpile  
52           promptly ensued, and Collins was later named series MVP; and

53           WHEREAS, the Lady Rebels team statistics were impressive, but  
54           the key to this team's consistent success has been the constant  
55           selfless atmosphere, the true love they each possess for the game,  
56           and the year-round hard work by each and every talented and  
57           distinguished player; and

58           WHEREAS, the George County High School Lady Rebels Fast-Pitch  
59           Softball Team is comprised of the following athletes: Ciera  
60           Parker, Aryana Dixon, Gracie Magee, Irina Sanford, Blakely Slay,  
61           Skylar Wood, Lexi Eubanks, Kelsey McCardle, Hadleigh Tatum, Ashton  
62           Fairley, Zoe Blankenship, Jordyn Bradley, Hannah Pitts, Sidnee  
63           Beech, Alexis O'neal, Skyler Dixon, Mari Torres, Kyla Fairley,  
64           Gabby Cochran, Braylee Bishop, Natalie Jones, Kyleigh Howell,  
65           Addison Davis, Carlaysha Boulton, Mary Jo Tatum, Peyton Collins  
66           and manager, Carys Cochran; and

67           WHEREAS, Head Coach Kasey McCann and Assistant Coaches Anna  
68           Grace Cooley, Bruce Thornton and Jay Smith have not only superbly



69 coached and inspired the Lady Rebels but also broadened the team's  
70 knowledge of the game and refined their skills in execution; and

71 WHEREAS, in their tireless dedication, the Lady Rebels have  
72 developed a winning, cooperative spirit and a high degree of  
73 sportsmanship, and their activities and attitudes reflect great  
74 credit upon the individual players and their coaches, bringing  
75 honor to George County High School; and

76 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
77 recognize and commend the superb accomplishments of Mississippi  
78 student-athletes, especially those such as the George County High  
79 School Lady Rebels Fast-Pitch Softball Team, whose excellence on  
80 the field and in the classroom bring honor to their school, their  
81 community and to the State of Mississippi:

82 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
83 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
84 commend and congratulate the George County High School Lady Rebels  
85 Fast-Pitch Softball Team and Head Coach Kasey McCann upon winning  
86 their first ever Mississippi High School Activities Association  
87 Class 5A Fast-Pitch Softball State Championship and extend best  
88 wishes to the team and coaches for continued success in all their  
89 future endeavors.

90 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
91 furnished to Head Coach Kasey McCann and to the members of the  
92 Capitol Press Corps.

