

By: Representative Mangold

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 14

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE COPIAH-LINCOLN
2 COMMUNITY COLLEGE LADY WOLVES SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2023
3 NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION II SOFTBALL
4 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the 2023 Copiah-Lincoln Community College Lady
6 Wolves Softball Team reigned supreme, winning the 2023 National
7 Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Softball
8 National Championship in Spartanburg, South Carolina, on May 27,
9 2023, the first national championship win in school history in any
10 sport; and

11 WHEREAS, striving to win with unparalleled motivation and
12 determination, the Lady Wolves played their best during the
13 championship, as their mental stamina and athletic prowess never
14 wavered from the time they first walked onto that red, dusty
15 diamond until the moment they were named champions; and

16 WHEREAS, outstandingly, the team earned its first number one
17 ranking in program history in the NJCAA Division II Softball poll,
18 and it finished the season with a program record for wins at 49-10
19 overall, in addition to winning the first NJCAA Region 23



20 Championship since 2008, at Jones College in Ellisville,
21 Mississippi, on May 15, 2023, and it also finished the season with
22 a Mississippi Association of Community College Conference (MACCC)
23 record of 25-3; and

24 WHEREAS, the Lady Wolves team statistics were impressive, but
25 the key to this team's consistent success has been the true love
26 they each possess for the game and the year-round hard work by
27 each and every talented and distinguished player; and

28 WHEREAS, the 2023 Copiah-Lincoln Community College Lady
29 Wolves Softball Team is comprised of the following outstanding
30 student-athletes: sophomores, Maggie West, Belle West, Josie
31 Meggs, Maddie Weeks, Elena Thompson, Laurel Breland, Faith Kivett,
32 Skyler Speights, Julianna Frazier, Lila Blackburn and Lizzy
33 Hollingsworth; and freshmen, Zykeria Cole, Laney Waguespack, Leia
34 Phillips, Madison Moak, Kat Case, Cara Biswell, Sarah Grace Smith,
35 Ellie Williamson, Bailee Goodson and Abby Grace Richardson; and

36 WHEREAS, the Lady Wolves have been superbly coached and
37 inspired by Head Coach Meleah Howard, and Assistant Coaches Amber
38 Beall and Drake Flowers, who have broadened the team's knowledge
39 of the game and refined their skills in execution; and

40 WHEREAS, Head Coach Meleah Howard was named NJCAA Gulf A
41 District Coach of the Year, NJCAA Region 23 Coach of the Year, and
42 NJCAA National Championship Coach of the Tournament; and

43 WHEREAS, catcher Abby Grace Richardson was named the Most
44 Outstanding Offensive Player and Most Valuable Player of the



45 national tournament, First Team All-MACCC, and NJCAA Third Team
46 All-American; outfielder Madison Moak was named to the
47 All-Tournament Team; pitcher Cara Biswell was named the Most
48 Outstanding Pitcher of the Tournament; and infielder Faith Kivett
49 was named the Most Outstanding Defensive Player; and

50 WHEREAS, additionally, pitcher Cara Biswell, outfielder
51 Madison Moak, infielder Maddie Weeks, catcher Abby Grace
52 Richardson, and pitcher Belle West were all named NJCAA All-Region
53 23; and

54 WHEREAS, infielder Maddie Weeks, outfielder Madison Moak, and
55 catcher Abby Grace Richardson were named First Team All-MACCC, and
56 shortstop Faith Kivett and infielder Josie Meggs earned Second
57 Team All-MACCC honors; and

58 WHEREAS, players Zykeria Cole, Josie Meggs, Madison Moak,
59 Abby Grace Richardson, Sarah Grace Smith, Elena Thompson, Laney
60 Waguespack and Maggie West were recognized as MACCC Distinguished
61 Academic All-State; and Lila Blackburn, Laurel Breland, Kat Case,
62 Julianna Frazier, Bailee Goodson, Lizzy Hollingsworth, Faith
63 Kivett, Skyler Speights, Maddie Weeks, Belle West and Ellie
64 Williamson were recognized as Academic All-MACCC; and

65 WHEREAS, Zykeria Cole was recognized as NJCAA All-Academic
66 First Team; Josie Meggs, Madison Moak, Abby Grace Richardson,
67 Sarah Grace Smith, Elena Thompson and Maggie West were recognized
68 as NJCAA All-Academic Second Team; and Lila Blackburn, Julianna



69 Frazier, Faith Kivett, Laney Waguespack, Maddie Weeks and Ellie
70 Williamson were recognized as NJCAA All-Academic Third Team; and

71 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
72 recognize and commend the superb accomplishments of Mississippi's
73 student-athletes, especially those such as the Lady Wolves, whose
74 hard work and dedication brings honor to Copiah-Lincoln Community
75 College and to the State of Mississippi:

76 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
77 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
78 recognize and commend the 2023 Copiah-Lincoln Community College
79 Lady Wolves Softball Team for winning the 2023 National Junior
80 College Athletic Association Division II Softball National
81 Championship, and extend best wishes to the team, Head Coach
82 Meleah Howard and assistant coaches for continued success in all
83 their future endeavors.

84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
85 furnished to the 2023 Copiah-Lincoln Community College Lady Wolves
86 Softball Team, and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

