

By: Representative Powell

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 106

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE JACKSON PREP  
2 "PATRIOTS" SOCCER TEAM AND HEAD COACH JON MARCUS DUNCAN FOR  
3 WINNING THE 2023-2024 MIDSOUTH ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS  
4 (MAIS) DIVISION 1 STATE SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP AND 15TH TIME IN ITS  
5 PROGRAM'S HISTORY.

6 WHEREAS, for the first time since 2020, the Jackson Prep  
7 "Patriots" Boys Soccer Team won the MAIS Division 1 State  
8 Championship, a hard fought victory that also cements the  
9 Patriots' legacy as 15-time champions in its boys soccer program's  
10 history; and

11 WHEREAS, proving hard work and diligence are the keys to  
12 success, the Patriots, 18-5-2 in overall season play and 9-1 in  
13 district play, ensured their historic program victory with a 3-0  
14 win over Presbyterian Christian High School on February 15, 2024,  
15 after previously ousting well-contended opponents in Jackson  
16 Academy (4-0), Hartfield Academy (1-1) and St. Joseph Catholic  
17 (8-0); and

18 WHEREAS, Jackson Prep had bested Presbyterian Christian in  
19 the earlier of two season match ups, and maintained that momentum



20 in the championship match, never turning back as they marched home  
21 victoriously; and

22 WHEREAS, Coach Jon Marcus Duncan's superb leadership has  
23 refined the team's skills and his precision of execution has  
24 lauded him with a overall record of 828-163-59 as head coach for  
25 both the boys and girls soccer teams at Jackson Prep, making him  
26 one of the most successful high school soccer coaches in  
27 Mississippi History, just four wins shy of claiming the most wins  
28 by a Mississippi high school soccer coach; and

29 WHEREAS, the Patriots' winning attitude, outstanding  
30 sportsmanship and eagle eyes on their program all season, helped  
31 the team finish the season with a final ranking as the No. 70 team  
32 in the nation by Max Preps and a No. 10 ranking within the State  
33 of Mississippi; and

34 WHEREAS, the 2024 Patriots Championship Roster is comprised  
35 of: Austin Craft, Cole Cress, Warner Russ, Cooper McCearley, Luke  
36 Smith, Wilson Berry, Matthew Mehrle, Clayton Upchurch, Thomas  
37 Werne, Elliot Davis, Ty Davidson, Christopher Owen, Major Quin,  
38 Walker Dreher, Thomas Hewitt Oswald, Rhodes Morgan, Sam Sherman,  
39 Worth Mgehee, Robert Fletcher, Will Ferguson, Mason McCain and  
40 Caleb Gutierrez; and

41 WHEREAS, led by senior captains, Cole Cress, Austin Craft and  
42 Wilson Berry, six Patriots were named to the MAIS All Star game,  
43 which recognizes senior players who excelled during the season,



44 including: Luke Smith, Austin Craft, Cole Cress, Wilson Berry,  
45 Cooper McCarley and Matthew Mehrle; and

46 WHEREAS, in addition to Cole Cress being named MVP for the  
47 blue team in the All Star game, honors abounded for multiple  
48 members of the Patriots teams, which include: the selection of  
49 Cole Cress, Austin Craft, Wilson Berry, Luke Smith, Matthew Mehrle  
50 and Elliot Davis for the MAIS All Conference Team; and the naming  
51 of Thomas Werne, Christopher Owen and Worth Mgehee to the Future  
52 All Star game; and

53 WHEREAS, assisting Coach Duncan in providing a heightened  
54 caliber of leadership that builds upon the continuing legacy of  
55 excellence demonstrated by the team's sportsmanship, championship  
56 play and champion's mentality, are T.J. Busin and Ami Powell,  
57 whose key contributions to the team's development and athletic  
58 success; and

59 WHEREAS, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that we  
60 celebrate these student-athletes who have brought honor to their  
61 school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

62 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
63 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
64 commend and congratulate the Jackson Prep "Patriots" Soccer Team  
65 and Coach Jon Marcus Duncan for winning the Midsouth Association  
66 of Independent Schools (MAIS) Division 1 State Soccer  
67 Championship, and extend best wishes to the team, coaches, parents  
68 and sponsors for continued success.



69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
70 furnished to Coach Jon Marcus Duncan for the team, to Jackson Prep  
71 Head of School, Lawrence Coco, III, the board of trustees of  
72 Jackson Prep and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

