

By: Senator(s) Harkins

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 39

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE HARTFIELD
2 ACADEMY "HAWKS" FOOTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH CRAIG BOWMAN FOR
3 WINNING THEIR FIRST-EVER MAIS 6A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, history was made on November 18, 2023, as the
5 Hartfield Academy "Hawks" football team secured its first-ever
6 MAIS 6A State Championship, solidifying an undefeated season with
7 a flawless 14-0 record. The championship game, against rival
8 Jackson Prep, unfolded at Mississippi College, marking a
9 significant milestone in the school's athletic history; and

10 WHEREAS, under the leadership of Head Coach Craig Bowman, who
11 took leadership in July 2020, the team displayed exceptional
12 skill, teamwork and resilience throughout the season. Coach
13 Bowman's record of 41 wins and 9 losses since joining the program
14 attests to the transformative impact he has had on the team; and

15 WHEREAS, the Hartfield Academy football team finished their
16 2023 season undefeated and secured their first state championship
17 as a program. The "Hawks" shut out defending champion Jackson
18 Prep 21-0 and finished their season 14-0; and



19 WHEREAS, in talking with Coach Bowman after the win, he
20 shared his favorite memories and reflections on the championship
21 team's journey. "I took over this program in July of 2020, and
22 from that moment, there were several things I wanted our players
23 to understand and embrace. The first thing was our 'ALL IN'
24 theme. First, we want them to be all in with their faith.
25 Second, to be all in with their family. Then their academics, and
26 finally with football. Championships are fun and bring a lot of
27 excitement, but we are unwilling to compromise the message of our
28 faith for the trophy given at the end of a season"; and

29 WHEREAS, the Hartfield Academy 2023-2024 varsity football
30 championship roster: Kenzy West, Bralan Womack, Kaden Catchings,
31 Twaskie Jones, Chris Jones, Bralen Steele, Jaxon Jenkins, Cooper
32 Howard, Josh Wooten, Reed Jesiolowski, Cayman Tapper, Connor
33 Elliott, Reginald Vaughn, Hayden McMinn, Dereck Lazo, L.J. Davis,
34 Woods Roberson, Alex Rushing, Sam Sheffield, Spence Bradshaw, John
35 Davis, Brayden Graham, Reid Gaston, Brandon A. Turner, Brad Myers,
36 John Shimfessel, Silas Sorey, Ian Hollingsworth, London Simmons,
37 Jaden Stingley, Jordyn Erves, Cooper Clark, Coleman Williams,
38 Payne Weaver, Sam Stumph, Cole Stumph, Xavier Horne, Antonio Ross,
39 Jr., Jeremy Kersh, Skye Dilworth, Colby Kelly and Head Coach Craig
40 Bowman; and

41 WHEREAS, we join the Hartfield Academy community, players and
42 fans in celebrating this historic win, cherishing the memories of



43 a season that will be remembered for years to come, leaving a mark
44 on Hartfield's legacy:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
46 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
47 Hartfield Academy "Hawks" Football Team and Head Coach Craig
48 Bowman for winning their first-ever MAIS 6A State Football
49 Championship, and extend to the team, coaches, faculty and
50 students our best wishes for continued athletic and academic
51 success.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
53 Coach Craig Bowman for the team, forwarded to the Principal David
54 Horner and Board of Trustees of Hartfield Academy and made
55 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

