

By: Senator(s) Parks

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 66

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE BLUE MOUNTAIN
2 HIGH SCHOOL "LADY COUGARS" GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACH REGINA
3 CHILLS UPON WINNING THE MHSAA CLASS 1A GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE
4 CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the Blue Mountain High School "Lady Cougars" Girls
6 Basketball Team defeated Lumberton High School 38-36 at the
7 Mississippi Coliseum in the Mississippi High School Activities
8 Association (MHSAA) Class 1A final on February 29, 2024, for their
9 first State Title in their first appearance in a big-school final;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, for most of this made-for-Hollywood season, the
12 remarkable Blue Mountain Girls Basketball Team has been known as
13 the Super Six. That's because for most of the season there were
14 only six players, three with the last name of Foote; and

15 WHEREAS, the Blue Mountain "Lady Cougars" brought a 28-1
16 record into the Class 1A State Championship at the Mississippi
17 Coliseum, known as the "Big House" throughout Mississippi high
18 school basketball. Rarely, if ever, has there been a smaller team
19 in the "Big House"; and



20 WHEREAS, about 800 citizens live in Blue Mountain. There are
21 66 students, boys and girls combined, in Grades 7 through 12. The
22 "Lady Cougars" play their home games on a gym floor that is
23 roughly about three-quarters the size of a regulation basketball
24 court; and

25 WHEREAS, now the town without a traffic light has one
26 gleaming Gold Ball State Championship Trophy. Despite many touch
27 and go moments, and a dogged effort from Lumberton, Blue Mountain
28 prevailed 38-36 in a strong defense struggle that turned into an
29 offense driven barn-burner in the fourth quarter; and

30 WHEREAS, as usual, only the original Super Six played for
31 Blue Mountain, while two younger teammates, promoted from the
32 junior high team late in the season, watched and cheered from the
33 bench. The three Footes, Keyauna and her first cousins Arare and
34 Beiga, made impressive play after play, especially in the fourth
35 quarter. Blue Mountain led 21-19 heading into the fourth quarter
36 when both teams started scoring regularly. Keyauna Foote scored
37 three straight baskets to give the "Lady Cougars" a five-point
38 lead midway through, but Lumberton fired back until Keyauna scored
39 what proved to be the winning basket on an in-bounds play with 20
40 seconds left; and

41 WHEREAS, as is always the case in the "Big House" this time
42 of the year, a wild celebration ensued. Of the 800 fans living in
43 Blue Mountain, nearly all were present and dancing in the stands;
44 and



45 WHEREAS, the Blue Mountain High School "Lady Cougars" Girls
46 Championship Basketball Team Roster: Arare Foote, Beiga Foote,
47 Kimberly Padilla, Precious Hall, Dynasty Prather, Keyuana Foote,
48 Ahkeelah Lipsey and Iralyn Rakestraw; Head Coach Regina Chills;
49 Assistant Coaches Mya Spight and Sydney Flake; and Managers Kyra
50 Hudson and Riley Maree; and

51 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize these
52 student athletes who have brought honor to their school, their
53 community and to the State of Mississippi:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
55 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Blue
56 Mountain High School "Lady Cougars" Girls Basketball Team and
57 Coach Regina Chills upon winning the MHSAA Class 1A Girls
58 Basketball State Championship, and extend to the team members,
59 coaches, parents and sponsors our best wishes for future success.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
61 Coach Regina Chills and Blue Mountain High School Principal Lee
62 Holt for the team, forwarded to the Tippah County Board of
63 Education, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

