

By: Representative Bell (65th)

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 27

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MR. ASHLEY  
2 ROBINSON, VICE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS AT JACKSON  
3 STATE UNIVERSITY, UPON BEING NAMED THE 2024 NATIONAL ATHLETIC  
4 DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR AND UPON HIS OVERALL SUCCESS AT JACKSON STATE  
5 UNIVERSITY.

6 WHEREAS, Jackson State University (JSU) Athletic Director  
7 Ashley Robinson, is being honored and celebrated upon being named  
8 the 2024 National Athletic Director (AD) of the Year by the  
9 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Legends, which  
10 is a coveted title that recognizes exemplary vision and commitment  
11 to athletic prowess; and

12 WHEREAS, a native of Jackson, Mississippi, Mr. Robinson's  
13 path to greatness began at Murrah High School, where he was a  
14 former standout point guard star for the Mustang's championship  
15 basketball team, and his athletic success continued at Mississippi  
16 Valley State University (MVSU), where he was a four-year letterman  
17 in basketball and where he went on to become the program's  
18 single-season and career record-holder in assists and was named



MVSU's Athlete of the Year in 2002 and received the 2002 President's Scholar-Athlete Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson's success as an outstanding high school and college athlete was an indicator of his success as an athletic director as he continues to receive well-deserved accolades, such as the following: 2024 Light On College Sports HBCU AD of the Year; 2023 Black Student-Athlete Summit AD of the Year and 2022 Cushman & Wakefield AD of the Year, which was awarded by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA); and

WHEREAS, additionally, under Mr. Robinson's leadership, JSU won the C.D. Henry Award for the best all-around men's sports program in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) in 2022-2023 and in May of 2024, he received the Roscoe Nance Lifetime Achievement Award by the SWAC Alumni Association, and he was named the 2024 YG&E Leader of the Year at the Young, Gifted and Empowered Awards Show - all of which speak volumes of his outstanding and visionary leadership; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson, before coming to JSU, displaced his dynamic administrative skills at Delaware State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Prairie View A&M University and he also briefly served as Assistant Commissioner for Compliance in the SWAC Office - all of which prepared him for his electric tenure at Jackson State University; and



43 WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson, who is in his seventh year at JSU and  
44 currently serves as the chair of the SWAC Athletics Directors  
45 Committee, has led JSU athletics to 20 championships and has  
46 upgraded several of the program's facilities, and he has served as  
47 past president of the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS)  
48 Athletics Directors Association and was the first African American  
49 in the position from 2020-2021, which speaks to his pioneering  
50 spirit; and

51 WHEREAS, additionally, during Mr. Robinson's tenure, he has  
52 made significant hires for Jackson State University, such as Coach  
53 Deion "Prime" Sanders, NBA Champion Mo Williams and Coach T.C.  
54 Taylor, among others; and

55 WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson, who is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi  
56 Fraternity, Inc., and who was named a 50 under 50 Recipient of  
57 Mississippi's Top Urban Elite Professionals in January of 2025,  
58 credits his success to, as he stated, "The people you surround  
59 yourself with. They will determine if you achieve your goals. I  
60 have been able to surround myself with great coaches, staffs and  
61 administrators who understand the ultimate goal is about the  
62 student-athlete experience." - which has truly been a recipe for  
63 his impressive success at JSU; and

64 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
65 recognize and celebrate an outstanding athletic director such as  
66 Jackson State University's Ashley Robinson, whose commitment to



67 "Building on Tradition, Blazing New Trails" has not only brought  
68 great honor and pride to JSU but to this great state as a whole:

69 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
70 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
71 recognize and congratulate Mr. Ashley Robinson, Vice President and  
72 Director of Athletics at Jackson State University upon being named  
73 the 2024 National Athletic Director of the Year, and wish him  
74 continued success in all his future endeavors.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
76 furnished to Mr. Ashley Robinson, Marcus Thompson, President of  
77 Jackson State University and the Board of Trustees of State  
78 Institutions of Higher Learning, and to the members of the Capitol  
79 Press Corps.

