

By: Representative Lamar

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 125

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MARK CARSON,
2 BASEBALL COACH AT NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ON
3 BECOMING THE WINNINGEST COACH IN THE BASEBALL PROGRAM'S HISTORY.

4 WHEREAS, Mark Carson, Baseball Coach at Northwest Mississippi
5 Community College in Senatobia, Mississippi, phenomenally etched
6 his name into the educational institution's record books on March
7 19, 2025, when the Rangers clinched an incredibly close 7-6
8 victory at Mississippi Delta Community College, making Coach
9 Carson the all-time winningest coach in Rangers' baseball history
10 with his 557th career win; and

11 WHEREAS, a four-year letterman in baseball and three-year
12 letter-winner in football and basketball at Independence High
13 School, Mark Carson, named team MVP in all three sports during his
14 senior year, was highly regarded by the Independence student body,
15 being elected senior class president and Mr. IHS; and

16 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, student-athlete
17 Mark Carson began his nearly lifelong relationship with Northwest
18 Mississippi Community College in 1987 when he joined the Rangers'



19 baseball program, where he was a two-time all-state selection,
20 playing in the JUCO All-Star Game, and elected team captain in his
21 sophomore year and selected as a National Junior College Athletic
22 Association (NJCAA) Academic All-American; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1989, Mark transferred to The University of
24 Southern Mississippi and continued his outstanding performance on
25 the mound with the Golden Eagles, amassing the second most wins in
26 USM single-season history with an 11-2 record his senior year and
27 being named team captain, National Collegiate Athletic Association
28 (NCAA) All-American, and to the 1991 All-Metro Conference
29 Commissioner's List; and

30 WHEREAS, Mark Carson signed a free agent contract to play
31 with the Cincinnati Reds in 1991, but after one season with its
32 minor league affiliate, he transitioned from exceptional player to
33 the start of his storied career as a baseball coach when he became
34 the head baseball coach and defensive coordinator at Briarcrest
35 Christian School in Memphis, where in six seasons, he led the
36 baseball team to the District 15AA Championship title and was
37 twice named District Coach of the Year, prompting the school to
38 later induct him into the Briarcrest Hall of Fame; and

39 WHEREAS, in 1998, Coach Carsons' baseball world came full
40 circle with his return to Northwest as assistant coach for the
41 Rangers, a position he held for eight seasons during which he
42 helped lead the team to a 271-120-4 record along with Head Coach
43 Donny Castle, capturing four north division championships and a



state championship in 2000 before ultimately rising to the helm of the organization in 2006; and

WHEREAS, now in his 20th season as the head of the Northwest baseball program, Coach Carson, seemingly born to spend his life on the baseball diamond, and his staff have been instrumental in developing players and helping them get to the next level, both collegiately and professionally, with 146 moving onto four-year schools and 17 being drafted by Major League Baseball during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate the once-in-a-lifetime achievement of becoming a program's all-time winningest coach, Coach Carson was presented with a commemorative bat from his former Northwest coach, Jim Miles, who previously held the record with 556 victories claimed during his 1976-1997 tenure, Northwest President Dr. Michael J. Heindl, former Northwest baseball coach Donny Castle, and Northwest athletic director Jake Gordon in pregame ceremonies before a March 22 doubleheader capping off a "Day of Celebration" featuring BBQ, blues and baseball; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Coach Carson has always been lovingly supported on the field and beyond by his most loyal fans, his wife, Shelia, and their daughter, Hadley; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to recognize and honor extraordinary Mississippians such as Northwest Mississippi Community College Baseball Coach Mark Carson, whose epic accomplishments and legacy as an exceptional coach,



69 inspirational mentor and talented athlete bring great pride and
70 honor to his family, hometown of Independence, the Northwest
71 Mississippi Community College family and the entire Magnolia
72 State:

73 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
74 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
75 commend and congratulate Mark Carson, Baseball Coach at Northwest
76 Mississippi Community College, on becoming the winningest coach in
77 the baseball program's history and extend to him our sincerest
78 wishes for many more wins and continued success in all his future
79 endeavors.

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
81 furnished to Coach Mark Carson, Northwest Mississippi Community
82 College and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

