

By: Representative Deweese

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 133

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
2 MISSISSIPPI MEN'S BASKETBALL HEAD COACH, CHRIS BEARD, UPON BEING  
3 NAMED THE 2025 JIM PHELAN NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR.

4 WHEREAS, the University of Mississippi Men's Basketball Head  
5 Coach, Chris Beard, has been named the 2025 Jim Phelan National  
6 Coach of the Year following a historic season for the Ole Miss  
7 Rebels; and

8 WHEREAS, the Jim Phelan Award is named in honor of the head  
9 coach who is best known for his 49-year career at Mount Saint  
10 Mary's, where he accumulated over 800 wins and was inducted into  
11 the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame in 2008; and

12 WHEREAS, under the expert guidance and tutelage of Coach  
13 Beard, Ole Miss advanced to just its second Sweet 16 appearance in  
14 the NCAA Tournament in school history and won its first March  
15 Madness games since 2013; and

16 WHEREAS, Coach Beard was awarded this prestigious honor in  
17 just his second year at the helm of the program, but in his two  
18 years, he has pushed Ole Miss to historic heights, matching the



19 program's furthest run in the NCAA Tournament with a Sweet 16  
20 appearance; and

21 WHEREAS, during the 2024-2025 season, the Rebels performed  
22 remarkably well and accumulated 24 wins this past season, tied for  
23 the third-most in program history, and set numerous statistical  
24 records; and

25 WHEREAS, during the 2025 NCAA Tournament, the Rebels picked  
26 up a victory over North Carolina in the opening round before a  
27 convincing win over No. 3 seed Iowa State in the second round, and  
28 while they narrowly fell to No. 2-seeded Michigan State by three  
29 points in the Sweet 16, they established that, under the  
30 leadership of Coach Beard, they will be a force to be reckoned  
31 with in future seasons; and

32 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
33 recognize and honor fine Mississippi educators and coaches,  
34 especially those such as Coach Chris Beard, a remarkable  
35 individual and excellent basketball coach who serves as an  
36 inspiration to all those who have the opportunity to learn and  
37 flourish under his tutelage, bringing glory and honor to the  
38 University of Mississippi and the entire State of Mississippi:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
40 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
41 commend and congratulate the University of Mississippi Men's  
42 Basketball Head Coach, Chris Beard, upon being named the 2025 Jim



43 Phelan National Coach of the Year, and extend best wishes for  
44 continued success in all his future endeavors.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
46 furnished to Coach Chris Beard and to the members of the Capitol  
47 Press Corps.

