

By: Senator(s) Frazier, Norwood, Horhn,
Blount

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CALLAWAY
2 CHARGERS 1975 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY.

3 WHEREAS, This year the Callaway Chargers football team of
4 Jackson, Mississippi, celebrates the 50th Anniversary of their
5 1975 State Championship victory; and

6 WHEREAS, The Callaway Charger Football Team was rated the
7 number-one team in Mississippi in 1975. During the 1975 football
8 season, this outstanding team broke records as the first team in
9 the history of the Mississippi High School Activities Association
10 to complete their season with a perfect 12 wins and no losses. In
11 addition to the State Championship, the team also won the Capital
12 Zone of the Big Eight Conference Championship, the North
13 Mississippi Division of the Big Eight Conference, and reigned as
14 the overall Big Eight Conference Champions. Throughout their
15 impressive season, the team scored a total of 328 offensive
16 points, while their defense only allowed 121 points to be scored
17 by the opposing teams; and



18 WHEREAS, in addition to their impressive record, the 1975
19 team is also notable for its trailblazing example of school
20 integration. While many schools around the state struggled to
21 integrate their classrooms and sports teams, Callaway was
22 noticeably different. The administrators, teachers, coaches,
23 parents, and students all valued creating an environment that
24 fostered respect and cooperation. With members of the Callaway
25 community believing in the inclusive vision established by the
26 school's leadership, teachers and coaches were able to bring
27 students and teams together and create meaningful, lasting
28 relationships; and

29 WHEREAS, Assistant Coach Odell Jenkins was the only African
30 American football coach during the 1975 season, and many of the
31 players described him as an integral mentor for the entire team.
32 Coach Jenkins was proud of his players for their accomplishments
33 that season, for earning college scholarships, and later, for some
34 recruitments to NFL positions. He stated, "They were not just
35 good football players - they were good people, and they went on to
36 do good things with their lives"; and

37 WHEREAS, Jerome Gentry, a junior on the team described his
38 experience explaining, "We were a family, not just a football
39 team. We were all friends, and our coaches were father or big
40 brother figures. We would have Thursday night dinners together
41 where parents - black or white - would host the team at their
42 homes and accept us all as their kids. In the football



43 environment, color did not seem to matter." The strides made,
44 both on and off the field, by the 1975 Callaway football coaching
45 team were astounding, and it has been said by some that God was
46 able to use the game of football to demonstrate to a group of high
47 school students the joy and necessity of racial reconciliation;
48 and

49 WHEREAS, the 1975 coaching staff consisted of Head Coach
50 Charles Allman and Assistant Coaches Odell Jenkins, Hill Denson,
51 and W.J. Bilbro. The 1975 Callaway Championship Football roster
52 consisted of: Jerome Gentry, Terrance Shirley, Ronald Lindsey,
53 Roy Coleman, Dwayne Bell, Fredrick Stingley, Anthony Washington,
54 Greg Turner, Leundus Faulkner, Lee Claybrook, Mitch Forester,
55 Jerry Maxwell, Chris Moylihan, Danny Freeman, Herbert Wilson,
56 Thomas Powell, Wayne Stover, Marcy Forester, John Hoover, Ravon
57 Levy, Jerome Hunter, James Geoghegan, Don Horn, Elston Hicks,
58 Darwin Lampkin, Larry Friday, David Bean, Roland Powell, Curtis
59 Washington, Joe Lattimore, Glen Collins, Richard McCain, Lepolian
60 Gentry, Walter Booker, Cleo Armstrong, Gearld Walker, Stuart
61 Gauntt, Joe Rucker, Mike Satcher, Kenny Jennings, Avery Hayes,
62 Wade Myers, Robert Marshall, Robert Woodson, Dwayne Sullivan,
63 Larry Lott, Bobby Kyzer, Gary Harrison, Robert Thompson, Walt
64 Dallas, Carl Clinghan, Russel Myers, Ed Sherline, Ronald Taylor,
65 Alfonso Burks, Jimmy Myrick, Danny McDill, Alan Massey, Gary
66 Walker, Johnnie Hines, Mike Hooper, Tim Hogue, Robert Harrison,
67 Bill Crockett, Wes Peters, Charles Sims, Roy Berry, Kenny



68 SanNicholas, William McMillen, Lloyd Sweat, Joe Schuland, Robert
69 McLendon, Mike Burns, Tyrone Keys, and Tommy Freeman; and

70 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
71 of former student athletes and coaches who have brought honor to
72 Callaway High School in 1975, to their community and to the State
73 of Mississippi:

74 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
75 MISSISSIPPI, that we do hereby commend and congratulate the
76 Callaway Chargers of Jackson, Mississippi, for celebrating the
77 50th Anniversary of their 1975 Football Team State Championship
78 victory.

79 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
80 the current Callaway Head Football Coach, Dameon Brown, and
81 current Callaway High School Principal, Dr. Shemeka McClung,
82 forwarded to the Jackson Public School District, and made
83 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

