

By: Senator(s) Hill, Seymour

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE POPLARVILLE
2 HIGH SCHOOL HORNETS FOOTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH JAY BEECH FOR
3 WINNING THEIR FIRST MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
4 CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, in a very close game between rivals on December 7,
6 2024, the Poplarville Hornets Football Team and Louisville
7 Wildcats took to the University of Southern Mississippi's field,
8 fighting to earn the 2024-2025 4A State Championship title.
9 Poplarville held out against Louisville during the true
10 "nail-biter," winning 29-28 and making history for the small-town
11 high school; and

12 WHEREAS, going to the championship is not new for the
13 Hornets. Poplarville High School has been to the 4A State
14 Championship four times prior, two being against Louisville, and
15 none resulting in taking home the gold ball. With many players
16 out previously in the season, the Hornets overcame adversity.
17 They arrived at the season-ending game with a record of 12-2,
18 winning to close out with an outstanding 13-2 finish. Poplarville



19 persisted and showed up against all odds, winning their first
20 State Championship; and

21 WHEREAS, hometown superstar Tylan Keys, played a great
22 offensive game against the Wildcats, and his performance clinched
23 him the Most Valuable Player Award. By the end of the game, Keys
24 had 130 rushing yards, a touchdown on 23 carries, and a kickoff
25 return touchdown; and

26 WHEREAS, Head Coach Jay Beech said about Keys: "Tylan gives
27 us something extra, that break-away ability. You need a guy like
28 him to win a state championship"; and

29 WHEREAS, while Tylan was named MVP, many other players
30 contributed to the ending score of 29 over Louisville's 28,
31 including the Hornets quarterback, Sydney Blackmon. It is safe to
32 say that Blackmon's high school career as quarterback is one to be
33 proud of, with 1580 yards and 16 touchdown passes overall.
34 Alongside their senior quarterback, running back Zack Case, and
35 wide receiver Nick Miller, and newly joined Hornet Jeremiah Moss,
36 also had outstanding seasons; and

37 WHEREAS, many players played their most challenging on the
38 defensive front to keep the Wildcats away from the end zone and,
39 ultimately, earn the coveted Gold Football Trophy, including Ayden
40 Harmon, Jason "Biggie" Smith, Cole Henry, Parker Pearson, Josh
41 Beck, and Nathan Brown. Overall, the Hornets pushed Louisville's
42 O-Line back for the win; and



WHEREAS, the first State Championship win for the Hornets, could not have been done without the work of the Poplarville coaching staff. Leading the offensive line, Head Coach Jay Beech and Assistant Coaches Jacob Owen, Justin Moss, and Chandler Ray all worked together, with Assistant Coaches Christopher Dewease, Justin Sones, Brad Wells, and Adam Johnson; and

WHEREAS, the scoreboard on December 7 made every inch of Poplarville proud to be a part of the community, even more so to be affiliated with the Hornets. The standout performances of every player and coach made it possible for the community to unite under this victory; and

WHEREAS, the Poplarville High School 24-25 Varsity Football Roster: Kyla Pohlmann, Cole Henry, Nick Miller, Kemari Keyes, Thomas Lambert, Tylan Keys, Zack Case, Jason Smith, Ayden Harmon, Lennox Beech, Chadwick Brown, Ethan Martin, Lock Russell, Ian Magee, Jeremiah Moss, Derek Penton, Jenson Abercrombie, Sydney Blackmon, Eli Seal, Mack Knight, Xavier Martin, Jake Cotton, Remy Naquin, Ben Will, Sam Will, Ethan Allen, Parker Pearson, Brayden Kite, Jaxon Schultz, Jayden Raine, Jaycee Singleterry, Payton Hart, Aaron Graham, Josh Beck, Torry Robinson, Walt Graham, Trac Smith, Zae Smith, Jacob Carollo, Titan Smith, Jakeob Taylor, Semaj Jamison, Jackson Moss, Hayden Blanchard, Rhett McCardle, Graison Craft, Alonso Sanchez, Tate Smith, Jackson Baker, Treyton Prince, Aidan Graham, Jacob Culpepper, Braylen Allen, Lamarcus Compton, Zeke Daffern, Austin Clark, Hunter Heatherly, Jobe Lambert,



68 Brennan Brown, Tanner Stockstill, Tyler DeGeorge, Cannon Parks,
69 Brayden Fussell, Aiden Berger, Brooks Avalon, Nathan Brown and
70 Christopher Fussell; and

71 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
72 of student athletes who have brought honor to their school, their
73 community and to the State 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 Poplarville High School Hornets Football Team and Head Coach Jay
77 Beech for winning their first Mississippi High School Activities
78 Association 4A State Championship and extend the best wishes of
79 the Legislature to the team, coaches, parents and sponsors for
80 future success.

81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
82 Coach Jay Beech and Poplarville High School Principal Jonathan Ray
83 for the team, forwarded to the Poplarville Municipal School Board
84 of Trustees and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

