

By: Senator(s) Norwood, Frazier, Butler,
Simmons (12th), Blount

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE JACKSON STATE
2 UNIVERSITY LADY TIGERS WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH KEVIN
3 MONTGOMERY FOR THEIR SECOND OVERALL SWAC CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY AND
4 FIRST IN OVER A DECADE.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson State University Women's Softball Team
6 is the 2024 SWAC Tournament Champions after the Lady Tigers edged
7 past Florida A&M in Gulfport, Mississippi, on May 10, 2024; and

8 WHEREAS, it is JSU's second overall SWAC Championship win and
9 first since 2011, according to the SWAC; and

10 WHEREAS, the Jackson State Women's Softball Team took a 1-0
11 lead in the first inning and never trailed from there on the way
12 to a 3-1 victory over Florida A&M to claim its first SWAC
13 Tournament Title in 13 years; and

14 WHEREAS, Jace Jackson was named SWAC Tournament MVP, while
15 Mari Stephens, Julie Lopez, Ka'Liyah Gipson and Victoria Salazar
16 were tabbed All-Tournament Team; and

17 WHEREAS, Sofia Gonzales got the win for Jackson State in the
18 circle (33-17). They went seven innings, giving up one run on
19 eight hits, allowing one walk and striking out three. In the



20 batter's box, the Lady Tigers were paced by Kristina Carlson, who
21 went 3-for-3 on the day with an RBI. Mari Stephens compiled a
22 noteworthy day at the dish as well, going 1-for-4 with a triple.
23 Meah Almaraz also helped out for Jackson State, putting together
24 two hits in four trips to the plate; and

25 WHEREAS, with the win, JSU will receive an automatic bid to
26 the NCAA Tournament; and

27 WHEREAS, the Jackson State University Lady Tigers SWAC
28 Championship Softball Team Roster: Kristina Carlson, Samiyyah
29 Huckabee, Victoria Salazar, Jalia Hubbard, Hermariya Stephens,
30 Beija Allen, Jace Jackson, Samantha Chavez, Ka'Liyah Gipson, Aariah
31 Hill, Ayanna Jennings, Kyleigh Peters, Gabrielle Willis, Sofia
32 Gonzales, Kelley Bickers, Meah Almaraz, Julie Lopez and Brooklyn
33 Morris; Kevin Montgomery, Head Coach; Zoey Keyes, Assistant
34 Softball Coach; Ebony Henderson, Softball Manager; Jordan
35 Williams, Equipment Manager; Mikaela Jackson, Head Athletic
36 Trainer for Fall/Winter/and Spring Sports; and Amari Cloyd,
37 Student Trainer; and

38 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
39 of Mississippi athletes who have brought honor to their
40 university, their community, their families and to the State of
41 Mississippi:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
43 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
44 Jackson State University Lady Tigers Women's Softball Team and



45 Head Coach Kevin Montgomery for their second overall SWAC
46 Championship Victory and first in over a decade, and extend the
47 best wishes of the Senate to the team, coaches, parents and
48 sponsors on this auspicious victory.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
50 Head Coach Kevin Montgomery and JSU President Dr. Marcus L.
51 Thompson, forwarded to the Board of Trustees of State Institutions
52 of Higher Learning, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

