

By: Senator(s) Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 86
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE LANIER HIGH
2 SCHOOL "BULLDOGS" BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACH THOMAS BILLUPS
3 FOR WINNING THE STATE CLASS 5A TITLE.

4 WHEREAS, the Lanier High School "Bulldogs" Boys Basketball
5 Team beat Provine High School 65-50 for the State Class 5A
6 Tournament Title before a sellout crowd, which earned the team a
7 state record 12th title with four state championships over the
8 last seven seasons, and brought its record to a remarkable 12-1 in
9 the Mississippi Coliseum; and

10 WHEREAS, the Bulldogs finished the 1998-1999 season with an
11 outstanding 36-3 record, and are No. 1 in The Clarion-Ledger final
12 poll, matching their rankings in 1993, 1996 and 1997; and

13 WHEREAS, the Bulldogs are ably led by Head Coach Thomas
14 Billups, who has an impressive 234-40 career record at Lanier High
15 School, and Assistant Coaches Darryl Thompson and Sylvester Kyles,
16 and for this successful season, Coach Billups was named "Metro
17 Coach of the Year" and "Mississippi High School State Coach of the
18 Year" by The Clarion-Ledger; and

19 WHEREAS, this championship season included the following
20 tournament results: won Yazoo City Tournament, won Jackson
21 City-Wide Tournament, Second Place in the Jackson Public School
22 Pepsi Holiday Tournament, won District 3-5A Tournament, won North
23 State Tournament and State 5A Tournament; and

24 WHEREAS, individual players on the Bulldogs received the
25 following recognition for outstanding performance: Darius Rice
26 (20.4 average points per game, 7 rebounds, All-State Team,

27 All-Metro Team, All-JPS Pepsi Holiday Tournament Team); James
28 Thomas (17.9 average points per game, 3.7 average assists per
29 game, All-State, All-Metro, All-District, All-North State, Most
30 Valuable Player City Tournament); Solomon Forbes (10.9 average
31 points per game, sophomore co-captain of the team, All-State Team,
32 All-Metro, All-District); Cornelius Torrence (All-JPS Pepsi
33 Holiday Tournament Team, North Mississippi All-Star Game); Antwain
34 Ellis (All-JPS Pepsi Holiday Tournament Team) and Shelton Ferguson
35 for making the highest score on the ACT test given at Lanier High
36 School; and

37 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this fine
38 group of student athletes which has brought honor to its school,
39 community and to the State of Mississippi:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE
41 SENATE, That we hereby commend and congratulate the Lanier High
42 School "Bulldogs" Boys Basketball Team and Coach Thomas Billups
43 for winning the State Class 5A Title, and wish them continued
44 success in their future athletic, academic and career endeavors.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
46 presented to Coach Billups and the Principal of Lanier High School
47 on behalf of the team and that copies be made available to the
48 Capitol Press Corps.