

By: Representative Martinson

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS
2 MISSISSIPPI TEAM.

3 WHEREAS, on June 21 through June 29, 2003, Mississippi's
4 delegation of forty athletes, coaches and support delegates, one
5 of the largest groups from the United States, competed in Dublin,
6 Ireland, at the 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games; and

7 WHEREAS, Mississippi's athletes competed in aquatics,
8 badminton, basketball, equestrian, gymnastics, sailing, and table
9 tennis; and

10 WHEREAS, through great strength and spirit, these athletes
11 won nineteen gold medals, nine silver medals, fourteen bronze
12 medals, five fourth-place ribbons, one fifth-place ribbon, three
13 sixth-place ribbons and two seventh-place ribbons; and

14 WHEREAS, through their participation in Special Olympics,
15 these marvelous individuals are afforded an opportunity and are
16 encouraged to develop their physical and mental skills,
17 demonstrate courage, experience joy and participation in the
18 sharing of gifts of skills and friendship with their families,
19 other Special Olympics athletes and the community; and

20 WHEREAS, in Special Olympics the emphasis is not upon
21 physical strength, speed or endurance of the human body, but upon
22 their faith, spirit and determination that bespeaks the true
23 character and worth of all human beings; and

24 WHEREAS, Mississippi's Special Olympic athletes were coached
25 and inspired by Helen Parish, Head of Delegation, Cathryn Patton,
26 Debra (Debbie) Waller, Becky Johnson, Chris Barnes, Freddie
27 Townsend, Keri Rediker and Becky Wells; and

28 WHEREAS, Mississippi's Special Olympics delegations included
29 Janie Allen and Ron Mucha and the support of numerous family
30 members, area directors and other volunteers; and

31 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
32 and commend excellence, especially when evidenced by the citizens
33 of this state, who have brought much honor and pride to the State
34 of Mississippi and the United States through their dynamic display
35 of perseverance and sportsmanship:

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
37 REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby
38 commend and congratulate the Special Olympics Mississippi Team for
39 their outstanding achievements and extend best wishes for all
40 their future endeavors.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
42 furnished to the members of the Special Olympics Mississippi Team
43 and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.