

By: Senator(s) Mettetal, Burton, Carmichael, Jackson (11th), Lee (47th), Little, Michel To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 539

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 SOUTH PANOLA HIGH SCHOOL "TIGERS" FOOTBALL TEAM FOR THEIR 2003
3 MHSAA CLASS 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AND FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING
4 UNDEFEATED SEASON.

5 WHEREAS, the 9th nationally ranked South Panola High School
6 "Tigers" Football Team (15-0) dominated and crushed the Oak Grove
7 Warriors (14-1) for the MHSAA Class 5A State Championship by a
8 score of 33-14 on Friday, December 5, 2004; and

9 WHEREAS, for the third time in six tries in 10 years, the
10 Tigers brought the golden football trophy home to Batesville from
11 Jackson: ten years ago the South Panola Tigers had a 15-0 season
12 capped with the 5A State Championship, and in 1998 South Panola
13 capped an almost perfect season (14-1) with the State Championship
14 trophy; they have been runner-up by losing the championship game
15 three times in that 10-year period; and

16 WHEREAS, critics and scouts around the state and nation are
17 calling the team "The University of South Panola" or "Panola
18 State" to compliment the strength, speed and the play of the Tiger
19 team; and

20 WHEREAS, in the 2003 Championship game, South Panola
21 dominated Oak Grove in every area, rushing for 390 yards, passing
22 for 68 yards for a total of 476 offensive yards and only allowed
23 the Warriors 94 rushing yards and 181 passing yards; Tiger junior
24 tailback Marcus Griffin rushed 34 times for 269 yards and two
25 touchdowns and wide receiver Travis Sanford caught two passes for
26 two touchdowns in 46 yards; and

27 WHEREAS, the "Tigers" are superbly coached by Head Coach Rick
28 Woods who spoke of the attitude and the work ethic of the team

29 this past season: "We want our team to play real, real, real
30 hard. You have to play to win every Friday night, hoping doesn't
31 get you a win, but playing does." South Panola assistant football
32 coaches are Arnie Oakes, Willis Wright (who led the Tigers to a
33 15-0 season and state championship 10 years ago) Ron Oakes, Lucian
34 King, Mark Weaver, Tranell Edwards, Michael Fair, Brad Huffman and
35 John Davis; and

36 WHEREAS, the Tigers are ranked 9th in the Nation and won the
37 Region 1 Divisional and the North State Championship on their way
38 to the State Championship; and

39 WHEREAS, outstanding players on the 2003 edition of the South
40 Panola Tigers include First Team All-State: Hollis Hoskins, Peria
41 Jerry, Jamarca Sanford, Demario Bobo and Derek Pegues; Second Team
42 All-State: Quinton Hankins and Marcus Griffin; South Panola has
43 seven players who have more than 40 tackles this season: Peria
44 Jerry (64), Jamarca Sanford (57), Marcus Johnson, (56), Connie
45 Shegog (46), Demetrice Bishop (42), Kendrell Barksdale (41) and
46 John Jerry (41), which illustrates the defensive strength of this
47 championship team; and

48 WHEREAS, the team relied on the support of the hometown
49 crowd, on and off the field, which is especially important in
50 games on the road; and

51 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we salute the
52 championship season of this group of student athletes, who have
53 brought honor to their school, their community and to the State of
54 Mississippi:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
56 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
57 we do hereby commend and congratulate the South Panola High School
58 "Tigers" Football Team and Head Coach Ricky Woods for their 2003
59 MHSAA Class 5A State Championship and their undefeated (15-0)
60 season, and wish them continued success in their athletic and
61 academic endeavors.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
63 Coach Ricky Woods on behalf of the "Tigers", be forwarded to the
64 Principal of South Panola High School and be made available to *The*
65 *Panolian* and to members of the Capitol Press Corps.