

By: Representative Mangold

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 48

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE COPIAH-LINCOLN
2 COMMUNITY COLLEGE LADY WOLVES SOFTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH MELEAH
3 HOWARD ON WINNING THE 2025 NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE ATHLETIC
4 ASSOCIATION (NJCAA) DIVISION II SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES.

5 WHEREAS, on May 24, 2025, in an unbelievable winner-take-all
6 game that will surely be remembered for years to come, the
7 Copiah-Lincoln Community College Lady Wolves Softball Team
8 astonishingly repeated history by winning, for the second time in
9 just three years, the National Junior College Athletic Association
10 (NJCAA) Division II Softball World Series when the team once again
11 reigned supreme over the Jones County Junior College Lady Bobcats
12 at the championship finals with a 6-4 victory in Oxford, Alabama;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, after winning their first ever National Championship
15 by defeating longtime rival Jones College in 2023, the Lady Wolves
16 finished their 2025 season with a phenomenal 48-6 record, a
17 record-setting 27-1 mark in conference play, and a second
18 consecutive Mississippi Association of Community Colleges
19 Conference Championship after securing their first in 2024; and



20 WHEREAS, in the World Series double elimination event, Co-Lin
21 pounded Jones College 9-1 in the first matchup of the final two
22 unbeaten teams before the Lady Bobcats handed the Lady Wolves
23 their only loss of the tournament in game one on Saturday with a
24 7-3 win; and

25 WHEREAS, with only 30 minutes for the players to rest and
26 regroup after the first game, the storied rivalry between the Lady
27 Wolves and Lady Bobcats reached fever pitch as the two teams took
28 to the field for the high stakes 71st all-time meeting between the
29 two powerhouse squads in which the Lady Wolves ultimately
30 "experienced the mountaintop of fun" by defeating the Lady Bobcats
31 6-4 yet again, securing another National Championship in just
32 three years; and

33 WHEREAS, several Lady Wolves were recognized at the World
34 Series for their remarkable performances, including Taylor
35 Efferson, who was named Most Valuable Player of the Tournament,
36 and Carson Hughey, Brelie Phillips, Olivia Banes and Kynlee
37 Madere, who were named to the All-Tournament Team; and

38 WHEREAS, the team's success throughout the season would not
39 have been possible without, in Coach Howard's words, "some real
40 grit about them" and the endless training and hard work of each of
41 the following talented student-athletes who comprised the 2025
42 Co-Lin Lady Wolves Softball Team: Olivia Banes, Stella Roberts,
43 Abby Burnette, Noelle Laiche, Avery Williams, Emilie Williams,
44 Anna Grace Rice, Emeri Warren, Brelie Phillips, Kynlee Madere,



45 Maddie West, Emma Kate Fimiano, Taylor Efferson, Emily Richarde,
46 Morgan Chisolm, Keegan McCorkle, Addison Lindley and Carson
47 Hughey; and

48 WHEREAS, the Lady Wolves have been superbly coached and
49 inspired by Head Coach Meleah Howard and Assistant Coaches Amber
50 Beall and Terry Bauer, who have broadened the players' knowledge
51 of the game and refined their skills in execution; and

52 WHEREAS, in recognition of her tremendous success, Coach
53 Howard, a former Co-Lin standout player now in her eighth season
54 as Head Coach of the Lady Wolves, has been selected for numerous
55 prestigious honors throughout her career, and at the 2025 World
56 Series, she was presented the Coach of the Tournament Award; and

57 WHEREAS, in their tireless dedication, the Lady Wolves have
58 developed a winning, cooperative spirit and a high degree of
59 sportsmanship, and their activities and attitudes, both on the
60 field and off, reflect great credit upon the individual players
61 and their coaches; and

62 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
63 recognize and commend the superb accomplishments of Mississippi
64 student-athletes, especially those such as the Copiah-Lincoln
65 Community College Lady Wolves Softball Team, whose excellence on
66 the field and in the classroom bring honor to their school,
67 community and the entire State of Mississippi:

68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
69 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby



70 commend and congratulate the Copenh-Lincoln Community College Lady
71 Wolves Softball Team and Head Coach Meleah Howard on winning the
72 2025 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division
73 II Softball World Series and extend best wishes to the team and
74 coaches for continued success in all their future endeavors.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
76 furnished to Head Coach Meleah Howard on behalf of the
77 Copenh-Lincoln Community College Lady Wolves Softball Team and to
78 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

