

By: Representative Holloway (27th)

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 92

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE MEMBERS OF THE
 2 LEAKE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF MR.
 3 TANARRI MOORE, DIRECTOR OF BANDS, AND MR. ALEX DAVIS, ASSISTANT
 4 DIRECTOR OF BANDS, FOR MAKING MISSISSIPPI HISTORY WHEN IT
 5 REPRESENTED THE STATE IN THE 105TH DUNKIN THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE
 6 IN PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, AND FOR THEIR OTHER OUTSTANDING
 7 ACHIEVEMENTS.

8 WHEREAS, the Leake County High School Marching Band, under
 9 the leadership of Mr. Tanarri Moore, Director of Bands, and Mr.
 10 Alex Davis, Assistant Director of Bands, made Mississippi history
 11 when it represented the state in the 105th Dunkin Thanksgiving Day
 12 parade in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the first band ever to do
 13 so, and the band will continue to enrich the state's history when
 14 it becomes the first band again to represent Mississippi in the
 15 West Virginia Strawberry Festival in May 2025; and

16 WHEREAS, the Leake County High School Marching Band, formerly
 17 known as the South Leake High School Marching Band, is located in
 18 Walnut Grove, Mississippi, and under the direction of Mr. Tanarri
 19 Moore, a native of Shaw, Mississippi, who has been an educator for
 20 at least 20 years; and



21 WHEREAS, as a graduate from Mississippi Valley State
22 University under Mr. Leonard Tramiel, Mr. Moore began his passion
23 for teaching band in 2004 in Shaw, and he continued his career in
24 2008 at Robert L. Merritt Middle School for grades 6th through 8th
25 and also at Gentry High School; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2014, Mr. Moore continued his career at Leland
27 High School until 2018, and during his tenure there, he set the
28 standard of excellence and changed their band program; and

29 WHEREAS, on July 18th, Mr. Moore began his journey teaching
30 students to become musicians with a purpose as the director of the
31 Leake County High School Marching Band, and when he arrived, the
32 program only had eight students, but with an ambition to change
33 the overall band program, his goal focused on giving the students
34 more opportunities and strengthening the culture; and

35 WHEREAS, to help further his goals and ambitions, Mr. Moore
36 had the Leake County High School Marching Band performing in local
37 parades, and they traveled to Mississippi Valley State University
38 yearly to participate in the band's high school day, where
39 students joined with other neighboring schools to train under the
40 university's section leaders; and

41 WHEREAS, over time, the band began to grow stronger and
42 stronger, and by 2022, the membership had increased to 37 students
43 and the band's musical sounds started to gain the attention of the
44 community, and as more invitations began to come in from other
45 community functions, the parents of the Soul of the Grove Band



46 Boosters knuckled down to work hard on making sure students had
47 the things they needed to perform; and

48 WHEREAS, on February 15, 2024, the band was invited to the
49 Krewe of Neptune's parade, where their performance for the news
50 crew was aired on television for the first time, and in May 2024,
51 Mr. Moore submitted an application for the band to perform in the
52 105th Dunkin Thanksgiving Day parade in Philadelphia,
53 Pennsylvania, which aired on ABC; and

54 WHEREAS, Mr. Moore's application was immediately accepted by
55 the program's committee, and the Leake County High School Marching
56 Band not only became the first band from Mississippi to
57 participate in the Dunkin Thanksgiving Day Parade in all of its
58 105 years, but the band was also the only band chosen to represent
59 Mississippi in this parade; and

60 WHEREAS, the Soul of the Grove Band Boosters' hard work and
61 the community's donations provided all of the needed expenses, so,
62 on November 28, 2024, the Leake County High School Marching Band
63 skillfully maneuvered the streets of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
64 and delighted the crowd with their musical numbers, and they
65 represented our state with acclaim as they made history and
66 established themselves as Mississippi's first marching band to
67 participate in the parade; and

68 WHEREAS, because of their immense success and newfound fame
69 after the Dunkin Thanksgiving Day parade, the Leake County High
70 School Marching Band was invited to participate in the West



71 Virginia Strawberry Festival and will again be the first
72 Mississippi band invited to compete in that festival against other
73 band programs across the nation and internationally; and

74 WHEREAS, if the band scores 80 points in either the concert
75 evaluation or parade evaluation during the West Virginia
76 Strawberry Festival, it will qualify for both the international
77 competition held in Ireland and the championship in Mexico in
78 2026; and

79 WHEREAS, the marching band membership has increased to 56
80 students and will keep growing stronger as each member, along with
81 Mr. Moore and Mr. Davis, continue to strive to challenge
82 themselves, meet their goals, reach their fullest potential and
83 achieve greatness; and

84 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
85 recognize and commend outstanding Mississippi students, especially
86 those such as the members of the Leake County High School Band,
87 who have brought honor to their school, their community and to the
88 State of Mississippi:

89 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
90 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
91 recognize and commend the members of the Leake County High School
92 Marching Band under the leadership of Mr. Tanarri Moore, Director
93 of Bands, and Mr. Alex Davis, Assistant Director of Bands, for
94 making Mississippi history when it represented the state in the
95 105th Dunkin Thanksgiving Day parade in Philadelphia,



96 Pennsylvania, and for their other outstanding achievements, and
97 extend best wishes for continued success in all their future
98 endeavors.

99 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
100 furnished to Mr. Tanarri Moore and Mr. Alex Davis and to the
101 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

