HJR14

D4J2HHH-1

By Representative Clarke

RFD: RULES

First Read: 06-Feb-24

HJR___ COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING COACH KATE WOOD FOR BEING NAMED THE STATE OF ALABAMA'S 2023 VOLLEYBALL COACH OF THE YEAR BY THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS.

WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure, highest commendations and congratulations are conveyed to Coach Kate Wood, head coach for McGill-Toolen Catholic High School's Dirty Dozen volleyball team, for being named the State of Alabama's 2023 Volleyball Coach of the Year by the National Federation of State High School Associations; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wood is a native of Arlington, Texas, and attended Lamar High School (LHS) where she helped lead the team to its first state playoffs; during her high school career, she earned the Newcomer of the Year Award in 1992, 1st Team All District in 1992, 1993, and 1994, and All Area Team in 1994; she was named to the Ft. Worth Star-Telegram's Super Team in 1994; she matriculated to Troy State University in Alabama on a scholarship where she was named to the 2nd Team All Conference in her sophomore year; in 1997, she returned to Texas to play at the University of Texas at Arlington; in 1998, she was a starter on the Southland Conference Champion team that went 19-1 in conference play; that same year, she earned the Coaches Leadership Award; and

WHEREAS, after great success on the court both in high school and college, Mrs. Wood began her professional career as the Junior Varsity Coach at her alma mater; she was promoted to head coach, and in six seasons LHS reached the playoffs in the highest classification in Texas; in 2010, Coach Wood was named District Coach of the Year, and the team claimed a district championship; and under her leadership, LHS set a school record by reaching the Elite 8; Coach Wood's club teams have also earned many prestigious awards; Texas Advantage Volleyball was ranked the #1 club in Texas for nine straight years and was ranked the #1 club nationally in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Coach Wood came to McGill-Toolen Catholic High School in 2014 and took on the role of head coach for the legendary volleyball team, the Dirty Dozen; in the 10 years she has been with the school, Coach Wood has led the team to the final four every year; the team earned three runner-up finishes and four State Titles in 2017, 2018, 2022, and 2023; the win in November was the program's 23rd State Title; under Coach Wood, the Dirty Dozen has amassed 414 victories and only 85 losses; and 20 of her players have gone on to play at the collegiate level; she also operates a successful club of 28 teams in age divisions 11U-18U, 17 of which have qualified for the USA Volleyball Junior National Tournament, and many more have competed in the Amateur Athletic Union Volleyball National Championships; and

WHEREAS, McGill-Toolen Catholic High School holds the second most state championships in state history; as head

coach, Mrs. Wood has continued the legacy of this beloved team, the Dirty Dozen, and its success during her tenure has been coined, The Decade of Dominance; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Coach Kate Wood is highly commended for her achievement of being named the National Federation of State High School Associations 2023 State of Alabama's Volleyball Coach of the Year, and this resolution is offered to her as evidence of our high esteem with best wishes for continued success and prosperity.