

1 HJR259
2 201465-3
3 By Representative Allen
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 22-MAY-19

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8 COMMENDING PIKE LIBERAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL ON WINNING
9 THE 2019 ALABAMA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (AISA) 3A
10 STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.
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12 WHEREAS, highest commendations and congratulations
13 are herein proudly presented to the Pike Liberal Arts Patriots
14 on winning their second consecutive 3A AISA Baseball
15 Championship; the Patriots defeated Morgan Academy by a score
16 13-8 in comeback fashion at Riverwalk Stadium in Montgomery on
17 May 9, 2019; and

18 WHEREAS, Morgan Academy had been called the best
19 AISA team ever coming into the championship series, but the
20 Patriots proved experience matters; Pike Liberal Arts has a
21 great group of young men that understand what it takes to get
22 to the championship; and

23 WHEREAS, the hard working and talented members of
24 the team are Davis Allen, Jayden Jordan, Drew Nelson, Javon
25 Christian, Trevor Barron, Max Copeland, Chandler Golden, Cody
26 Hollis, Avery Ernsberger, Levi Sikes, Hunter Keenan, Jade
27 Sikes, Tristen Carter, Scott Taylor Renfroe, J.D. Wilson, Holt

1 Steed, Clay Barron, Marx Copeland, Tripp Spivey and Kase
2 Chirico; and

3 WHEREAS, exceptional performance was recorded by
4 senior, Chandler Golden, who not only walked away as a state
5 champion, but he also was named the tournament's Most Valuable
6 Player; Golden pitched all seven innings in the Patriots win,
7 while striking out nine batters; he also brought the Patriots
8 to within one run when he homered to left field; and

9 WHEREAS, expert guidance and leadership were
10 provided by Head Coach Allen Ponder, Assistant Coaches Will
11 Austin, Chandler Lunn, Peyton Egbert, Thomas Edward, Hunter
12 Mann, and Ross Hixon; and

13 WHEREAS, Patriot Head Coach Allen Ponder will be the
14 seventh inducted in the Nation Athletic Association of Private
15 Schools Hall of Fame Class of 2019; he was the first player
16 from AISA to be named Mr. Baseball in the State of Alabama; he
17 signed with The University of Alabama, where he played for
18 three seasons and was named SEC Pitcher of the Week as a
19 freshman and a member of the 2005 SEC Championship Team; Coach
20 Ponder played for Auburn-Montgomery where he became an
21 All-Conference, All-Region and Gold Glove infielder and was
22 inducted into the AUM Hall of Fame in 2018; Coach Ponder was
23 drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 2008 MLB Draft; he
24 pitched one season with the State College Spikes of the New
25 York Pennsylvania League; and

26 WHEREAS, the achievements by these remarkable
27 athletes reflect immense credit upon the city of Troy Alabama,

1 and the entire State of Alabama, and they are truly deserving
2 of special commendation and praise; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Pike Liberal Arts Patriots
5 are highly honored and commended, and this resolution is
6 offered to them with heartiest congratulations, along with
7 sincere best wishes for continued success in the future.