

By: Parker

H.R. No. 1073

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The members of the girls' basketball team from  
2 Ponder High School distinguished themselves during the 2020-2021  
3 season, advancing all the way to the semifinals of the University  
4 Interscholastic League 3A playoffs; and

5           WHEREAS, During the regular season, the Lady Lions compiled  
6 an outstanding record of 24 wins and 3 losses, including a perfect  
7 14-0 tally in league play to claim the district title; Ponder then  
8 embarked on an exciting postseason run, defeating the teams from  
9 Dallas Madison, Pottsboro, Rains, and Winnsboro High Schools to  
10 reach the regional finals; and

11           WHEREAS, Squaring off against Gunter High School on March 2,  
12 Ponder relied on the same stout defense that it had specialized in  
13 all season long; the Lady Lions' suffocating full-court press  
14 surrendered just 10 points from the end of the first quarter to the  
15 start of the fourth, and when the final buzzer sounded, the team had  
16 claimed a decisive 42-29 victory, punching its ticket to the state  
17 tournament for just the second time in school history and the first  
18 time since 1998; and

19           WHEREAS, The Lady Lions faced Brownfield High School in the  
20 semifinals on March 6; in a thrilling game that went down to the  
21 wire, the Ponder players gave their all but ultimately fell short,  
22 ending their season with a record of 29-4; and

23           WHEREAS, Excelling with a true team effort, the Lady Lions  
24 received valuable contributions throughout the year from each

1 member of the roster: Marlee Moynagh, Tate Wells, Kassi Ballard,  
2 Karly Ivy, Kenzie Crider, Riley Jackson, Everley Joplin, Chloe  
3 Poole, and Devyn Weiland; these dedicated athletes were ably guided  
4 by assistant coach Ellyn Avery and by head coach Jimmy Avery, who  
5 was honored prior to the state tournament as one of the top 100  
6 girls' basketball coaches of all time; and

7 WHEREAS, Demonstrating a combination of exceptional talent  
8 and fierce determination, the Ponder Lady Lions turned in a  
9 memorable performance during the 2020-2021 campaign, and their  
10 success is a source of great pride to their many supporters in the  
11 local community; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby congratulate the Ponder High School girls'  
14 basketball team on advancing to the semifinals of the 2021 3A state  
15 playoffs and extend to the team's players, coaches, and staff  
16 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
19 House of Representatives.