

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 769

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The University of Texas men's basketball team has
2 completed a sensational and memorable season that included the
3 team's first trip to the Final Four in more than 50 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Guided by head coach Rick Barnes, the Longhorns
5 finished their season with a 26-7 record that included a perfect
6 14-0 mark on their home court and earned the team its first-ever
7 NCAA Tournament number-one seed; the season also featured two wins
8 over conference rival Oklahoma as well as a strong run in the NCAA
9 Tournament that ended with a hard-fought loss to eventual national
10 champion Syracuse University; and

11 WHEREAS, This young and energetic Longhorns team was led by
12 sophomore point guard T. J. Ford, the 2003 Naismith Player of the
13 Year; the team also included seniors Deginald Erskin, Terrell Ross,
14 and Chris Ogden, juniors James Thomas, Brandon Mouton, Royal Ivey,
15 Drew Gressett, and Brian Boddicker, sophomores Sydmill Harris and
16 Jason Klotz, and freshmen Kenton Paulino, Brad Buckman, and Chris
17 Wright; and

18 WHEREAS, With help from assistant coaches Frank Haith, Rodney
19 Terry, and Russell Springmann, Coach Barnes has crafted a solid and
20 successful team that is fast earning the university recognition as
21 one of the nation's elite basketball programs; his players have
22 earned the respect of fans for their efforts both on and off the
23 hardwood, and the team will undoubtedly build on its success as it
24 returns to the national title hunt next season; now, therefore, be

1 it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
3 Legislature hereby pay tribute to Coach Rick Barnes and the Texas
4 Longhorns men's basketball team on their outstanding 2002-2003
5 season and extend best wishes for continued success to the many
6 individuals associated with the team; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for the team and coaches as an expression of high regard by
9 the Texas House of Representatives.