

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Baylor University men's basketball team brought
2 further acclaim to the university and to the State of Texas with its
3 inspired play during the 2009 postseason, making a dramatic run
4 through the National Invitational Tournament to play for the title;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, To set the stage for its NIT success, the Bears
7 performed exceptionally well in the Big 12 championship tournament
8 in Oklahoma City in mid-March; they reeled off three successive
9 wins, including a 71-64 upset of Kansas, the conference's
10 top-seeded team, to earn a spot in the title game; there, they fell
11 to Missouri to finish as the Big 12 runner-up; and

12 WHEREAS, Granted a spot in the National Invitational
13 Tournament for the first time since 2001, Baylor resumed its clutch
14 play, topping Georgetown, Virginia Tech, Auburn, and San Diego
15 State; on April 2, Baylor made its first NIT finals appearance in
16 school history, and though the team lost a hard-fought title game to
17 Penn State, its overall performance in the tournament demonstrated
18 that Baylor could hold its own against tough competitors from
19 throughout the nation; and

20 WHEREAS, Indispensable to the Baylor attack were its skilled
21 senior players--Curtis Jerrells, Henry Dugat, Delbert Simpson,
22 Mamadou Diene, and Kevin Rogers--who have helped bring about a
23 resurgence in the basketball program, winning 64 games during their
24 years at the university; in addition, the Bears received

1 outstanding contributions from the other members of the roster:
2 Kendall Wright, Duran Diaz, Fred Ellis, Quincy Acy, LaceDarius
3 Dunn, Anthony Jones, Tweety Carter, Josh Lomers, and Ekpe Udoh; and

4 WHEREAS, These talented athletes were guided by head coach
5 Scott Drew and assistant coaches Matthew Driscoll, Mark Morefield,
6 and Jerome Tang; additional support was provided by director of
7 basketball operations Stephen Brough, coordinator of basketball
8 operations Paul Mills, and director of player development Dwon
9 Clifton; and

10 WHEREAS, With its thrilling postseason victories, the Baylor
11 basketball squad was a source of great excitement and pride for its
12 loyal fans, and its triumphs will serve to inspire future Bears
13 teams in seasons to come; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate the Baylor University men's
16 basketball team on its memorable 2008-2009 season and extend best
17 wishes to the players, coaches, and staff for continued success;
18 and, be it further

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

Anderson

H.R. No. 1518

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1518 was adopted by the House on April 30, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House