

By: Smithee

H.R. No. 1738

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In his 33 years of guiding high school basketball
2 teams, Joe Lombard of Canyon High School has distinguished himself
3 as one of the most successful and revered coaches in the State of
4 Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, The latest proof of Coach Lombard's mastery came
6 during the 2010-2011 season, when he led the Canyon Lady Eagles to a
7 38-0 record and the 4A state championship; it was the 15th title of
8 his career, his 4th undefeated season, and the 20th time that one of
9 his teams played in the state tournament; moreover, the victory in
10 the title game brought his overall record to an astounding 1,100
11 wins and just 98 losses; and

12 WHEREAS, A native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Coach Lombard first
13 came to the Lone Star State to attend Wayland Baptist University,
14 where he was a member of the basketball team; following his
15 graduation, he took a job coaching the girls' team at Nazareth High
16 School, and his gift for guiding young athletes was clear from the
17 outset; during the 1978-1979 season, his first with the Swiftettes,
18 the team claimed the state championship, and they went on to win
19 five more titles in the seven years that Coach Lombard was a member
20 of the faculty; he also took on the assignment of overseeing the
21 Nazareth boys' team, taking them to the state tournament both
22 seasons he served as coach; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1985, this skilled mentor accepted the job at
24 Canyon High; within four years, the Lady Eagles reached the state

1 tournament, and their record over the past two decades has been
2 phenomenal: 11 final four appearances and 9 championships, with 7
3 of them taking place since 2000; and

4 WHEREAS, Coach Lombard's success encompasses more than
5 winning games and titles, however; a trusted and inspirational
6 leader, he teaches his players the value of commitment and teamwork
7 while instilling in them the confidence they need to reach their
8 goals; in addition, his own actions also serve as a positive example
9 of wholehearted dedication and responsibility; he approaches his
10 job with a deep passion for the game of basketball and a desire to
11 help his young charges excel, yet is renowned for his composed
12 demeanor on the bench, having received only one technical foul in
13 his career; and

14 WHEREAS, Highly respected by his peers, Joe Lombard is well
15 known for his willingness to share his knowledge with other
16 coaches; he has earned numerous honors during his career, most
17 recently being named the MaxPreps Girls Basketball Coach of the
18 Year for 2010-2011 and being featured in the April 13, 2011, issue
19 of *Sports Illustrated*; such recognition is well deserved, and this
20 legendary coach is indeed worthy of legislative congratulations for
21 his outstanding achievements in high school athletics; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
24 Legislature hereby honor Joe Lombard, head coach of the Canyon High
25 School girls' basketball team, on his exceptional career and extend
26 to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for Coach Lombard as an expression of high regard by the
2 Texas House of Representatives.