

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 115

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Stephen F. Austin State University men's
2 basketball team created a memorable season for its fans in
3 2013-2014, winning a conference championship and capturing the
4 program's first NCAA Tournament victory; and

5 WHEREAS, In the first year under new head coach Brad
6 Underwood, the Lumberjacks employed an attacking offense and a
7 pressure defense en route to an undefeated mark versus league
8 opponents during the regular season; entering the Southland
9 Conference Tournament as the number one seed, they bested
10 Northwestern State University and then defeated Sam Houston State
11 University in the championship game to claim the tournament crown
12 and secure a spot in the 2014 NCAA Tournament; and

13 WHEREAS, Matched with the squad from Virginia Commonwealth
14 University in the second round of the "Big Dance," SFA jumped out to
15 a double-digit lead early in the second half before a furious
16 comeback put VCU up by four; with only three seconds remaining in
17 regulation, senior guard Desmond Haymon completed an improbable
18 four-point play to send the game into overtime; the Lumberjacks
19 then proved their resiliency once again as they held on for a 77-75
20 victory to continue their postseason run; in the subsequent
21 third-round matchup with UCLA, the team fought admirably but
22 ultimately fell to the Bruins, bringing the historic season to a
23 close; and

24 WHEREAS, The Lumberjacks' impressive performance in the NCAA

1 Tournament capped an unforgettable year in which SFA compiled a
2 29-game winning streak while finishing with an overall record of 32
3 wins and just 3 losses; the team's remarkable season was the result
4 of the outstanding efforts of each member of the roster:
5 Mr. Haymon, Connor Brooks, Ben Brown-White, Dallas Cameron, Tanner
6 Clayton, Patrick Costello, Justin Dotson, Nikola Gajic, Jason
7 Martin, Jacob Parker, Trey Pinkney, Sharife Sergeant, Deshaunt
8 Walker, Thomas Walkup, and Reed Westbrook; moreover, these talented
9 student-athletes received vital support from Coach Underwood as
10 well as from assistant coaches Mike Boynton Jr., Stephen Gentry,
11 and Erik Pastrana; and

12 WHEREAS, The Stephen F. Austin State University men's
13 basketball team is a source of tremendous pride to all those
14 associated with the university, and the team's superlative
15 accomplishments indeed merit special recognition; now, therefore,
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
18 Legislature hereby honor the Stephen F. Austin State University
19 men's basketball team on its achievements during the 2013-2014
20 season and extend to the team's players, coaches, and staff sincere
21 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas
24 House of Representatives.