

By: Meyer

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R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Southern Methodist University men's basketball
2 team enjoyed an outstanding 2014-2015 season, as it claimed the
3 American Athletic Conference regular season and tournament
4 championships and advanced to the NCAA Tournament; and

5 WHEREAS, Under the direction of head coach Larry Brown, the
6 Mustangs entered the year with a determined focus after narrowly
7 missing out on a berth in the 2014 NCAA Tournament; the team
8 combined an efficient offense and an aggressive defense to compile
9 24 regular season wins and capture the AAC regular season title with
10 a 15-3 record in league play; and

11 WHEREAS, SMU began the postseason as the No. 1-seeded squad
12 in the AAC Tournament, held in Hartford, Connecticut; there, the
13 team earned victories over East Carolina and Temple to set up a
14 finals matchup with the defending national champions from the
15 University of Connecticut; the Mustangs jumped out to an early lead
16 and withstood a late rally from their opponent to win 62-54 and
17 claim the school's first conference tournament championship and
18 first NCAA Tournament bid since 1988; and

19 WHEREAS, The sixth-seeded Mustangs then faced off against
20 UCLA in the second round of the "Big Dance"; the team fought back
21 from a halftime deficit to take a late lead before seeing their
22 memorable season come to a close with a loss; the team finished the
23 2014-2015 campaign with an impressive overall record of 27 wins and
24 just 7 defeats; and

1 WHEREAS, Driving the SMU attack throughout the year was
2 junior guard Nic Moore, who was named AAC Player of the Year after
3 leading the team in scoring, assists, free-throw percentage, and
4 minutes played; moreover, teammate Markus Kennedy was selected as
5 the AAC Sixth Man of the Year, and center Yanick Moreira earned the
6 conference's Most Improved Player honor; and

7 WHEREAS, Demonstrating tremendous talent and dedication, the
8 SMU Mustangs worked together on the court to elevate the
9 university's basketball program to new levels of success, and their
10 accomplishments are a source of great pride to their many fans in
11 North Texas and across the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
13 Legislature hereby congratulate the Southern Methodist University
14 men's basketball team on its achievements during the 2014-2015
15 season and extend to the team's players, coaches, and staff sincere
16 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.