

By: Anderson

H.R. No. 1258

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Baylor University women's basketball team once
2 again proved itself the finest in the nation by winning the 2019
3 NCAA Division I championship on April 7; and

4 WHEREAS, The Lady Bears' journey to the title began with a
5 10-game winning streak to open the season; they followed with a
6 perfect run against their conference opponents to sweep the Big 12
7 regular-season and tournament titles and entered the NCAA
8 tournament as a No. 1 seed and the nation's top-ranked team; and

9 WHEREAS, In the Greensboro Regional, Baylor crushed Abilene
10 Christian 95-38 to launch its championship bid and then notched
11 commanding victories over California, South Carolina, and Iowa to
12 punch its ticket to the Final Four for the fourth time; in the
13 semifinal game, the Lady Bears pitted their signature defense
14 against Oregon's explosive offense in a contest that ultimately
15 featured 12 ties and 12 lead changes; the Baylor players were
16 relentless down the stretch, scoring a go-ahead layup with 41
17 seconds remaining and icing the win from the free-throw line to move
18 on to the championship game; and

19 WHEREAS, Competing for the title in front of more than 20,000
20 fans on April 7, Baylor battled defending national champion Notre
21 Dame; the Lady Bears took charge in the first half, leading by as
22 many as 17 points, but the momentum shifted late in the third
23 quarter when Baylor standout Lauren Cox was sidelined with a knee
24 injury; mounting a fourth-quarter comeback, Notre Dame knotted the

1 contest at 74-all and then pulled ahead; with their title hopes on
2 the line, the Lady Bears refused to give in, hitting clutch shots in
3 the final minute, including the game-winning layup with 3.9 seconds
4 on the clock; triumphing by a final score of 82-81, the team cut
5 down the nets in celebration of their school's third national
6 crown; and

7 WHEREAS, Baylor was paced by Chloe Jackson, who scored 26
8 points, including the winning bucket; she was named the
9 championship game's Most Outstanding Player and joined Ms. Cox and
10 Kalani Brown on the All-Tournament Team; the Lady Bears also
11 received valuable contributions throughout the season from the
12 other members of the roster: Caitlin Bickle, Aquira DeCosta, Queen
13 Egbo, Honesty Scott-Grayson, Juicy Landrum, DiDi Richards, NaLyssa
14 Smith, Trinity Oliver, and Moon Ursin; and

15 WHEREAS, These determined student-athletes were ably guided
16 by Kim Mulkey, who became one of only three head coaches to win
17 three or more NCAA Division I women's titles, having also led Baylor
18 to the 2005 and 2012 crowns; the team enjoyed additional support
19 from associate head coach Bill Brock, assistant coach/recruiting
20 coordinator Sytia Messer, and assistant coach Toyelle Wilson; and

21 WHEREAS, By accomplishing the rare feat of winning a third
22 national championship, the Baylor Lady Bears have burnished their
23 reputation as a basketball powerhouse, and all those associated
24 with the team may reflect with pride on a job well done; now,
25 therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
27 Legislature hereby congratulate the Baylor University women's

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1 basketball team on winning the 2019 NCAA Division I national
2 championship and extend to the players, coaches, and staff sincere
3 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for the Lady Bears as an expression of high regard by the
6 Texas House of Representatives.