

By: Lambert

H.R. No. 1860

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Abilene Christian University men's basketball
2 team enjoyed an exceptional 2018-2019 season, winning the Southland
3 Conference Tournament championship and advancing to the NCAA
4 Division I men's basketball tournament for the first time in school
5 history; and

6 WHEREAS, Under the direction of head coach Joe Golding, the
7 Wildcats compiled an outstanding 25-6 record in the regular season
8 and were the No. 2 seed in the Southland Conference Tournament,
9 held March 13 through 16 in Katy; after opening with a 69-66 victory
10 over Southeastern Louisiana University, ACU advanced to the
11 tournament final against the University of New Orleans; the
12 Wildcats built a 15-point lead before intermission in that contest
13 and dominated with a smothering defense the rest of the way;
14 triumphing by a final score of 77-60, the ACU players erupted in
15 celebration of their automatic NCAA bid; Jaren Lewis was named the
16 Most Valuable Player of the conference tournament, and Jaylen
17 Franklin and Payten Ricks earned a place on the All-Tournament
18 Team; and

19 WHEREAS, Taking great pride in seeing their university's name
20 on the March Madness bracket for the first time, the Abilene
21 Christian players tipped off against the University of Kentucky on
22 March 21 in their first-round Midwest Regional game in
23 Jacksonville, Florida; the matchup of two Wildcat programs--No. 2
24 seed Kentucky and No. 15 seed ACU--captured the attention of fans

1 nationwide, and the Lone Star State's Wildcats put up a fierce fight
2 before seeing their season come to an end; thrilling Texans with
3 their storybook season, the Wildcats set a new standard of program
4 excellence and tied the school record for most season wins with 27;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The talented and hardworking members of the Abilene
7 Christian University men's basketball team have realized a
8 tremendous accomplishment by playing in the NCAA tournament, and in
9 so doing, they have earned the admiration of the entire ACU
10 community; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
12 Legislature hereby congratulate the Abilene Christian University
13 men's basketball team on winning the Southland Conference
14 Tournament championship and competing in the NCAA Division I
15 tournament and extend to all those associated with the team sincere
16 best wishes for continued success; 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.