

By: Anderson

H.R. No. 643

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Baylor University women's basketball team
2 furthered its proud tradition of excellence during the 2020-2021
3 season by winning the Big 12 regular season and tournament
4 championships and advancing to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Division
5 I Women's Basketball Tournament; and

6 WHEREAS, Suffering just two losses during their regular
7 schedule, the Lady Bears went 17-1 against their league rivals to
8 capture their 11th consecutive Big 12 season crown, and in so doing,
9 they joined five other programs for the longest such streak in
10 Division I women's basketball history; in the Big 12 tournament,
11 Baylor defeated Texas Christian, Texas, and West Virginia, cruising
12 to its third consecutive tournament championship; and

13 WHEREAS, The Big 12 tournament triumph earned the Lady Bears
14 an invitation to the "Big Dance" of the NCAA tournament; as the
15 number two seed in the River Walk Region, Baylor routed Jackson
16 State and Virginia Tech in the first two games and then met Michigan
17 in a nail-biting showdown in the regional semifinals; the Lady
18 Bears prevailed 78-75 in overtime to advance to the Elite Eight
19 round of the tournament, where their season came to an end in a
20 hard-fought loss to Connecticut; and

21 WHEREAS, Baylor players received numerous accolades for
22 their exceptional play during the season; Junior NaLyssa Smith was
23 named the Big 12 Women's Basketball Player of the Year as well as
24 the conference tournament's Most Outstanding Player; seniors

1 DiJonai Carrington and Moon Ursin joined her on the All-Tournament
2 Team, and Ms. Carrington earned recognition as the league's Top
3 Sixth Player and Newcomer of the Year; Baylor also received
4 essential contributions throughout the year from the other members
5 of the roster: DiDi Richards, Trinity Oliver, Jaden Owens, Jordyn
6 Oliver, Hannah Gusters, Kamaria McDaniel, Sarah Andrews, Queen
7 Egbo, Chrislyn Carr, and Caitlin Bickle; Baylor excels under the
8 leadership of head coach Kim Mulkey, who has won three national
9 championships at the university and will be inducted into the
10 Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2021; additional
11 guidance was provided by associate head coach Bill Brock, assistant
12 coaches Sytia Messer and Kaylin Rice, and the other members of the
13 staff; and

14 WHEREAS, With its impressive record of sustained success, the
15 Baylor women's basketball team remains one of the top programs in
16 the country, and the Lady Bears are a source of great pride to their
17 many fans across the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate the Baylor University women's
20 basketball team on its successful 2020-2021 season and extend to
21 all those associated with the team sincere best wishes for the
22 future; and, be it further

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