88R20828 CW-D

By:  Orr H.R. No. 902

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The girls' basketball team of La Vega High School in Waco proved itself one of the finest in the Lone Star State by winning the 2023 University Interscholastic League 4A state championship at the Alamodome in San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, During the regular season, La Vega lost just five games before going 10-0 to claim the district title; the Lady Pirates then embarked on a thrilling playoff run, besting Jarrell, Houston Yates, Marble Falls, Hardin-Jefferson, and Madisonville High Schools to earn the school's sixth trip to the state tournament; the team faced off against Glen Rose High School in the semifinals, securing a 50-48 decision to advance to the title game; and

WHEREAS, On March 4, La Vega battled Sunnyvale High School for the state crown; combining ferocious defense with hot shooting from three-point range, the Lady Pirates opened with an 11-0 run and led by 10 at intermission; Sunnyvale rallied, pulling within three points late in the game, but the Lady Pirates demonstrated impressive poise and confidence and sealed the outcome from the free-throw line; triumphing by the final score of 46-38, the La Vega players celebrated the second state championship in program history; and

WHEREAS, La Vega was paced by Championship Game Most Valuable Player Kiyleyah Parr, who was joined by Kenzi Mitchell on the 4A All-Tournament Team; over the course of the season, the Lady Pirates also received valuable contributions from the other members of the roster: Ja'Dyn Iglehart, Mar'Cyah Willis, CeMaria Kelly, Alaysia Gude, Cra'Lajah Bradley, Kya Mitchell, Sydney McKinney, Jermarrianna Daniel, Ri'Azia Smith, Solange Loadholt, Andrea Johnson, and Angela Carroll; these determined student-athletes were ably guided by head coach Marcus Willis Sr. and assistant coaches Sherry Salter, James Brown, Michael Mitchell, LaNita Keys, Victoria Kuykendall, and Lisa Edney; and

WHEREAS, Winning a state championship represents the culmination of countless hours of hard work and an unwavering commitment to excellence, and the La Vega Lady Pirates will treasure the memory of this accomplishment for the rest of their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate the La Vega High School girls' basketball team on winning the 2023 UIL 4A state championship and extend to the players, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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