

Senate Resolution 1152

By: Senator Tippins of the 37th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia State University Panthers Men's Basketball Team for its victory
2 in the 2018 Sun Belt Conference Tournament and advancement to the NCAA tournament;
3 and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Panthers enjoyed their fifth consecutive winning season and
5 received their second Sun Belt Conference title in the last four years; and

6 WHEREAS, the Panthers finished the regular season with a 24-10 mark, the fourth most
7 season wins in Georgia State University history; and

8 WHEREAS, Sophomore D'Marcus Simonds was named SunBelt Player of the Year and
9 Junior Devin Mitchell garnered All-SunBelt Third Team recognition; and

10 WHEREAS, the Panthers entered the Sun Belt Conference tournament as a number two-seed
11 and secured victories over Troy, in-state rival Georgia Southern University, and the
12 University of Texas Arlington to claim another conference title; and

13 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Panthers are the only men's team in Georgia to earn a trip to
14 the NCAA Tournament; and

15 WHEREAS, the championship team includes Jordan Session, Isaiah Williams, Denis
16 Alibegovic, Malik Benlevi, Matt Chism, Chris Clerkley, Nile Felton, Josh Linder, Devin
17 Mitchell, D'Marcus Simonds, Jeff Thomas, Jordan Tyson, Kane Williams, and Damon
18 Wilson; and

19 WHEREAS, this championship team was led by Coach Ron Hunter and assistant coaches
20 Ray McCallum, Claude Pardue, Sharman White, Jeff Diepenbrock, and Nate Summer;
21 athletic trainer Dinika Johnson; and team physician Dr. Letha Griffith; and

22 WHEREAS, the Panthers squared off in the NCAA Tournament in Nashville, Tennessee,
23 against the number two-seed Cincinnati Bearcats; and

24 WHEREAS, the Panthers fell to the Bearcats 58-53, but not before leading midway through
25 the second half; and

26 WHEREAS, the entire Panther Nation is proud of this magnificent team of young men who
27 have battled adversity and injury to compete as champions and stand as ambassadors of
28 athletic excellence in the State of Georgia.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 recognize and commend the Georgia State University Panthers Men's Basketball Team for
31 a magnificent season and extend sincere best wishes for continued success.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia State
34 University Panthers Men's Basketball Team.