

A RESOLUTION honoring the Paul Laurence Dunbar High School boys' basketball team for winning the 99th Whitaker Bank/KHSAA Boys' Sweet Sixteen Basketball Tournament.

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2016, at historic Rupp Arena in downtown Lexington, Kentucky, the Paul Laurence Dunbar Bulldogs defeated the Doss High School Dragons to capture its first ever basketball state championship; and

WHEREAS, the Bulldogs won a school-record 33 games against just six losses during the 2015-2016 campaign. The win capped an extraordinary 11-game winning streak that saw Dunbar rip through the brutal 43rd District and 11th Region before making its way to the Sweet Sixteen, where it faced Mercer County, Bowling Green, and Newport Central Catholic on its road to the championship game; and

WHEREAS, in the quarterfinal game against Bowling Green, which is sure to become a classic in the modern history of the Sweet Sixteen, the Bulldogs were forced to overcome a 14-point deficit in order to move on to the semifinal round; and

WHEREAS, against Doss in the championship, the Bulldogs were led by Taveion Hollingsworth, who scored 20 points and grabbed eight rebounds. Darius Williams notched 15 points and four rebounds; Dontell Brown added 11 points and 8 rebounds; and Jordan Lewis tallied nine points, three rebounds, and one steal. Hollingsworth scored 86 combined points in the Sweet Sixteen and was named tournament MVP; and

WHEREAS, the championship was the first for a Lexington public school since 2001; and

WHEREAS, this honorable body congratulates the Paul Laurence Dunbar Bulldogs on this day upon winning the 2016 Whitaker Bank/KHSAA Boys' Sweet Sixteen, commends Coach Scott Chalk and his staff for the support they have given this team on and off the court, and grants all those seniors who are graduating best wishes as they continue on to a new and exciting chapter of their lives;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby honor the Paul Laurence Dunbar Bulldogs upon winning the 2016 Whitaker Bank/KHSAA Boys' Sweet Sixteen State Tournament.

➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the Paul Laurence Dunbar Bulldogs.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Alice Forgy Kerr for delivery.