

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 297

BY REPRESENTATIVE GAINES

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Southern University Lady Jaguars basketball team upon winning the 2019 Southwestern Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships.

WHEREAS, in his first year as the Southern University women's basketball head coach, Carlos Funchess picked up where former head coach Sandy Pugh left off: leading the Lady Jaguars squad to yet another glorious Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) title; and

WHEREAS, Coach Funchess made even more history at Southern University when he became the first coach to win the regular season SWAC title and tournament title and to be named SWAC Coach of the Year, all in his first season at the helm of the Lady Jaguars basketball team; it was only the second time a first-year head coach at Southern University achieved twenty wins, the first of whom was Herman Hartman; Coach Funchess also received the Women's Basketball Coaches Association Division I Maggie Dixon Rookie Coach of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the Southern University Lady Jaguars secured their second straight conference championship in 2019 and their third regular season title in four years, earned the program's fifth overall National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) bid with the SWAC tournament win, and entered the national tournament as a No. 14 seed, the highest in school history; and

WHEREAS, each student athlete on the team performed at the highest levels of excellence on the court and displayed amazing feats of athleticism and endurance throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the well-deserved title the Lady Jaguars have earned; to commend the team for the ability they have displayed, particularly at the

most difficult level of competition; and to express sincere and heartfelt congratulations to the team members and coaching staff for the merits earned and the sportsmanship shown while achieving the highest basketball honor possible for Southern University.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the student athletes and coaches of the Southern University women's basketball team for winning the 2019 Southwestern Athletic Conference regular season and conference championships, capping off a truly spectacular season, and does hereby recognize the outstanding performance of the team members and the pride and honor they have brought to their school and community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Coach Carlos Funchess.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES