

2017 -- H 5918

LC002163

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND MEN'S BASKETBALL
TEAM ON WINNING THE 2017 ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT
CHAMPIONSHIP**

Introduced By: Representatives McEntee, Shekarchi, Craven, Tanzi, and McKiernan

Date Introduced: March 15, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The University of Rhode Island Men's Basketball Team picked the right
2 time of the season to play their best basketball, as they swept aside the competition at the 2017
3 Atlantic 10 Men's Basketball Tournament to win their first Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament
4 Championship in eighteen years, and earn a berth in the NCAA Basketball Tournament; and

5 WHEREAS, The URI Men's Basketball Team has compiled an outstanding 24 and 9
6 record thus far in the 2016-2017 season thanks to the outstanding play provided all season by
7 Hassan Martin, the Atlantic 10 Defensive Player of the Year and All-Conference Second Team
8 selection, E.C. Matthews, Atlantic 10 All-Conference Third Team selection, Jeff Downtin, an
9 Atlantic 10 All-Rookie Team selection, and the innumerable contributions provided by Jared
10 Terrell, Kuran Iverson, Jarvis Garrett, Stanford Robinson, Nicola Akele, Cyril Langevine,
11 Christian Thompson, Andre Berry, Eric Dadika, Will Leviton and Mike Layssard. Additionally,
12 the Rams were blessed to be led by the innovative coaching and exemplary leadership provided
13 by Head Coach Dan Hurley, Associate Head Coach David Cox, and Assistant Coaches Jim Carr,
14 and Antonio Reynolds Dean; and

15 WHEREAS, The Rams Men's basketball team entered the Atlantic 10 Conference
16 Tournament in Pittsburgh desperate for wins with all the national prognosticators declaring that
17 URI had to make a deep run in order to secure an NCAA bid. Many teams wilt under this kind of
18 pressure but the Rams seemed to welcome it as they stormed through the opposition and
19 dominated the tournament. They began their run by beating St. Bonaventure 74 to 63, putting

1 away the Bonnies in the second half with an 11 to 2 run. E.C. Matthews and Hassan Martin
2 combined for thirty-nine points in the Rams victory. In the Semi-Finals, URI thrashed Davidson
3 84 to 60, trailing for only twenty-four seconds in the game, and advancing to the title game
4 against Virginia Commonwealth University; and

5 WHEREAS, With an NCAA Tournament bid on the line, the Rams men's basketball
6 team started the game on fire, storming to a big first half lead and withstanding a second half run
7 by VCU to win the Atlantic 10 Championship by the score of 70 to 63. The Rams were able to
8 cut the nets down in Pittsburgh thanks to the outstanding play provided by E.C. Matthews who
9 scored nineteen points, grabbed nine rebounds, and was named the Most Outstanding Player of
10 the Atlantic 10 Championship and a member of the All-Championship Team. Joining him on the
11 All-Championship team was teammate Hassan Martin, who contributed eleven points, five
12 rebounds and three blocked shots in the title game. Also making vital contributions were Jared
13 Terrell, who scored twenty-four points, and freshman Cyril Langevine who grabbed ten rebounds
14 and blocked two shots off the bench; now, therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
16 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates the University of Rhode Island Men's Basketball
17 Team on winning the 2017 Atlantic 10 Men's Basketball Conference Tournament. We
18 furthermore wish the team continued success in the 2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament; and be
19 it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Dan Hurley, Head Coach, University of
22 Rhode Island Men's Basketball Team.

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