

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 798

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Coach Rachel Gray and the Lenoir City Middle School girls' basketball team upon winning the state section championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those student athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as champions of whom we all can be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Lenoir City Middle School girls' basketball team have proven themselves to be the fiercest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, under the astute leadership of Coach Rachel Gray, the Lady Panthers (23-1) achieved an extraordinary level of success, capping a stellar season by securing a 55-34 victory over the Midway Middle School Lady Green Waves in the state section championship game; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Panthers knew they were in a fight from the opening whistle; at the end of the first quarter, the game was tied 12-12, but Lenoir City forged ahead to 25-21 at the half; and

WHEREAS, in the third quarter, Lenoir City remained undaunted, displaying strong defense and putting forth their best scoring quarter with players Maegan Hudson, Jaila Arnwine, and Amberlee Zeller all contributing points, increasing the margin to 41-29; and

WHEREAS, in the fourth quarter, Lady Panther Jermeria Dortch had the hot hand down the stretch, scoring six of her eleven points in the final frame, and Ashlynn Zeller banged in a field goal and a free throw for three points as the Lady Panthers coasted to the final buzzer with the sectional title in hand; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hudson had the game-high scoring total of twenty-three points, Ms. Dortch had eleven, and Ms. Arnwine netted ten; and

WHEREAS, Ashlynn Zeller added six points overall and Amberlee Zeller contributed five points; and

WHEREAS, Jaila Arnwine, Amberlee Zeller, Ashlynn Zeller, Jermeria Dortch, and Maegan Hudson were named to the All-Tournament team, and Ms. Hudson was also named the tournament's Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Lenoir City Middle School girls' basketball team epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while exhibiting the highest degree of character in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a stellar championship season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the members of the Lenoir City Middle School girls' basketball team for their outstanding performance and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Coach Rachel Gray and the Lenoir City Middle School Lady Panthers girls' basketball team on winning the state section championship and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.