

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 180

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Coach David Taylor and the 2010-11 Craigmont High School boys' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA BlueCross AAA State Tournament.

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 true champions of whom we all can be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 2010-11 Craigmont High School boys' basketball team have proven themselves to be the fiercest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, the Chiefs achieved an extraordinary level of success during this tremendous season, which was capped by their recent victory in the TSSAA Class AAA State Tournament championship game, in which they defeated the Bearden High School Bulldogs 61-55 at Middle Tennessee State University's Murphy Center in Murfreesboro, marking the school's first-ever state title in any sport since the school opened in 1974; and

WHEREAS, led by Coach David Taylor, the Chiefs ended their season with a 33-5 record, the best record in the school's history, which included victories as the G7 Christmas Tournament Champions, the District 14 AAA Tournament Champions, the Regional 7 AAA Tournament Champions, and the Substate Sectional Champions; and

WHEREAS, though the members of the Craigmont team only shot 33.9 percent from the floor in the last game of the state tournament, the defense forced eighteen turnovers and completely took the Bearden team, who entered the tournament 35-3, out of the game in the fourth quarter; and

WHEREAS, game highlights included Chiefs player Robert Houston contributing the team's first eight points of the game and scoring seventeen points overall; his last three points of the game gave Craigmont a 52-48 lead early in the fourth quarter; and

WHEREAS, Craigmont player Sam Craft knocked down a big shot from behind the arc to make the score 57-52 in the fourth quarter and, in the final minute of the game, players Jordan Washington and Calvin Chambers each made two free throws to secure the 61-55 victory over Bearden; and

WHEREAS, Sam Craft was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player and was also named to the All-Tournament team along with fellow teammates Robert Houston and Rod Lewis; and

WHEREAS, Coach Taylor's leadership and passion for the game are without question, and his principles of playing tenacious defense, controlling the ball on offense, and limiting mistakes were on display throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, the talented members of this team were: Antonio Seals, Rod Lewis, Kymer Levy, Olawale Akinbobla, Calvin Chambers, Ravontae Kight, Jordan Washington, Robert Houston, Darius Gibson, Montral Barnes, Oterrius Diggins, Sam Craft, Malcolm Taylor, Jalen Fitzgerald, and Richard Mozique; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Craigmont boys' 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 men not only made possible a 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 Craigmont boys' 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Coach David Taylor and the 2010-11 Craigmont High School boys' basketball team on winning the TSSAA Class AAA State Tournament 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.