

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 341

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Coach Penny Hardaway and the University of Memphis men's basketball team on winning the 2023 American Athletic Conference Tournament Championship.

WHEREAS, we are pleased to specially honor and commend those successful college teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors for this State; and

WHEREAS, Coach Penny Hardaway and the University of Memphis men's basketball team have achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2022-2023 season, winning the coveted American Athletic Conference (AAC) tournament championship and automatically qualifying for the NCAA men's national basketball tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Tigers, as the number two seed in the AAC tournament, defeated the regular season champion and number one seed, the University of Houston, in the championship game by a score of 75-65 to claim the tourney crown; and

WHEREAS, during their run through the tournament, the Memphis Tigers rallied to defeat the University of Central Florida 81-76 in the team's opening round game and rolled over Tulane University 94-54 in the semifinals to set up the clash with the Houston Cougars; and

WHEREAS, mauling their opponent, the Tigers led for all but fifty-four seconds in the championship game, stretching their lead to twenty points at one time before handing Houston just its third loss of the season; and

WHEREAS, the Tigers enjoy the leadership of Coach Penny Hardaway, a Memphis native and University of Memphis hoops legend whose name is synonymous with basketball in the Bluff City; and

WHEREAS, championships are achieved only through hard work, dedication, and the ability to work together as a team and excel with a cooperative spirit; the Tigers have exhibited each of these rare qualities during their championship season; and

WHEREAS, the basketball players of the University of Memphis epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes and have inspired their fellow students, uniting the entire community during their triumphant run through the 2022-2023 season; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud Coach Hardaway and the Tigers of the University of Memphis on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend and congratulate Coach Penny Hardaway and the University of Memphis Tigers men's basketball team on winning the 2023 American Athletic Conference Tournament Championship as we extend our best wishes for much continued success in the NCAA tournament.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.