

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 869

By Marrero

A RESOLUTION to honor and applaud coach Richard Lewis, assistant coach Craig Weiner, and the Cooper Yeshiva boys' basketball team on capturing the Tier 2 Championship at the Yeshiva University High School Basketball Tournament.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful sports teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, led by coach Richard Lewis, the Cooper Yeshiva boys' basketball team achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2011-2012 season, establishing a record of twenty-seven wins and five losses and winning the Tier 2 Championship at the Yeshiva University High School Basketball Tournament in New York; and

WHEREAS, one of twenty teams invited to the national competition, Cooper Yeshiva lost its first game, sending the team to the Tier 2 bracket, where they vanquished each foe on their way to the championship final against a team from Elizabeth, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, by far the smallest school in the tournament, Cooper Yeshiva's supporters in the stands were vastly outnumbered by those of their opponent from nearby New Jersey, where the school had cancelled classes so students could attend the game; and

WHEREAS, every member of the Cooper Yeshiva team contributed to this amazingly successful season, but perhaps the most memorable play will be that of Eli Osdoba, who inspired his whole team as he stole the basketball and hit a layup with ten seconds left, giving his team a one-point lead. He then took a charge against the opposition's top player and hit two free throws to seal the 38-35 victory; and

WHEREAS, the young men of the Cooper Yeshiva boys' basketball team have displayed ability, teamwork, and perseverance, and with the help of their coaches, parents, teachers,

school administrators, supporters, and many fans, represented their school and the State of Tennessee in fine fashion, displaying peerless character both on and off the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, the leadership and passion for the game of coaches Richard Lewis and Craig Weiner are without peer; their precepts of playing tenacious defense, controlling the ball on offense, and limiting mistakes were perfectly on display during the team's run for the championship; and

WHEREAS, during this incredible championship season, the members of the Cooper Yeshiva boys' basketball team have etched their names onto the hearts of Tennesseans; their dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent not only made possible a successful and memorable basketball season, but also surely point toward their successes in future endeavors; 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 honor and congratulate coach Richard Lewis, assistant coach Craig Weiner, and the Cooper Yeshiva boys' basketball team for their heralded success on the basketball court and for capturing the Tier 2 Championship at the Yeshiva University High School Basketball Tournament.

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