

SENATE RESOLUTION 128

By Akbari

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jaren Jackson, Jr.,
2022–2023 NBA Defensive Player of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should recognize those world-class athletes who are wholly devoted to their profession and bring great pride and honor to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such exceptional individual is Jaren Jackson, Jr., of the Memphis Grizzlies, who was recently voted the 2022–2023 National Basketball Association (NBA) Defensive Player of the Year, a most befitting honor that recognizes his standout performance this season; and

WHEREAS, Jaren Jackson led the NBA with three blocks and one steal per game, even with missing the first month or so of the season; his efforts helped propel the Grizzlies to No. 3 in the league defensively, at 110.3 points per 100 possessions allowed; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson edged out defensive players Brook Lopez of the Milwaukee Bucks, who was the favorite for much of the year, and Evan Mobley of the Cleveland Cavaliers, who made a strong push toward the end of the season; and

WHEREAS, what sealed the deal for Jaren Jackson among voters was his performance during the absence of point guard Ja Morant; while it was assumed the Grizzlies would slip in the standings without their point guard, the team instead went 6-3 during that time, in large part due to Mr. Jackson's defensive play; and

WHEREAS, recognized widely as one of the best defensive athletes the NBA has ever seen, Jaren Jackson is only the second Memphis Grizzly in team history to win Defensive Player of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson is the embodiment of determination, dedication, and perseverance, and he is richly deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Jaren Jackson, Jr., on being selected as the 2022–2023 NBA Defensive Player of the Year, extending our best wishes for his continued success.

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