

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATOR GARY SMITH AND REPRESENTATIVE GREGORY MILLER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the players and coaches of the Destrehan High School LadyCats upon winning the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Class 5A girls basketball state championship title and to congratulate the LadyCats on an outstanding 2016-2017 perfect season.

WHEREAS, after four consecutive district championships and a 120-8 win-loss record during that time, the Destrehan High School LadyCats completed a sensational regular season of 35-0, then advanced to the playoffs of the 2017 Allstate Sugar Bowl/LHSAA Class 5A girls basketball championship to win the first ever state title in female athletics in DHS history; and

WHEREAS, during the tournament on March 4, 2017, number three seed Destrehan LadyCats defeated number one seed Barbe High School Lady Buccaneers of Lake Charles by a score of 62-57; and

WHEREAS, the members of this outstanding squad include Kyrsten "Kiki" Kenner, Kali Mealey, Daja Sanchez, Brandi Mason, Jerlicia "Lele" Morris, Korriana Reynaud, Kayla Davis, Cara "Moon" Ursin, Sierra Samuels, Darielle Richard, Gia Zeringue, Aja Graham, Britney Lipps, Destiny Dupre, and Marshay Stevenson, who merit special recognition and congratulations for their performance, both on and off the court, and their never-say-die competitive spirit throughout this unforgettable season; and

WHEREAS, "Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships" is the motto of Head Coach Angi Butler, who, along with assistant coaches Meagan Stock and Joanna Welch, has instilled in these young athletes the winning attitude needed to become great basketball players, accomplished academics, and outstanding members of the community who strived to capture the Class 5A title with a singular team mantra, "Finish"; and

WHEREAS, the team includes six seniors who have played sports together for nearly a decade in Amateur Athletic Union programs and in middle school; they possess an

exceptional synergy for play and a teamwork ethic that has resulted in a four-year winning streak in district competition; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a perfect season record is quite a rare achievement; the LadyCats finished the 2016-2017 season ranked No. 16 in the nation by Maxpreps.com; DHS is one of only ten high school girls basketball teams to remain unbeaten for the season; and

WHEREAS, Cara Ursin, the team captain, was honored with the Most Outstanding Player award, and as a fearless competitor contributed to the final win over Barbe, scoring twenty-seven points with eleven rebounds and six assists; she also was awarded numerous titles, including being named Miss Basketball by the Farm Bureau/Louisiana Sports Writers Association and the Louisiana Gatorade High School Player of the Year for Girls Basketball for three consecutive years, 2015-2017; the only player, male or female, to do so in any sport; and

WHEREAS, the Destrehan High School girls basketball team has earned these well-deserved accolades that exemplify their extraordinary athletic ability, uncommon work ethic, and unselfish dedication to each other, particularly at the most demanding level of state competition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Destrehan High School LadyCats upon winning the 2017 Allstate Sugar Bowl/Louisiana High School Athletic Association girls' basketball championship title for Class 5A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere congratulations to the team and to the coaching staff for achievement of such high honors for themselves, for Destrehan High School, and for the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Angi Butler, head coach, and Stephen Weber, principal of Destrehan High School.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES