

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY REPRESENTATIVES FREEMAN AND STAGNI

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Loyola University New Orleans men's basketball team on winning the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics 2022 national championship.

WHEREAS, the Loyola University New Orleans men's basketball team captured the school's first national basketball championship in seventy-seven years, its second overall, by defeating Talladega, 71-56, at the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Loyola entered the NAIA tournament as the top-ranked team after finishing the regular season with a record of 37-1 and winning the Southern States Athletic Conference regular-season and tournament titles; they went on to run through the NAIA tournament with six-consecutive wins to cap off a dominant championship season; and

WHEREAS, despite Loyola's incredible record this season, the team's season was not free from hardships; first, Hurricane Ida ripped off a section of the University Sports Complex's roof and damaged the team's home court; the team was forced to spend the preseason practicing in Dallas before playing all of its early-season home games at Tulane's Devlin Fieldhouse while their home court was returned to a usable state; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the facility damage, Loyola's men's basketball program dealt with numerous COVID-19-related postponements, a tornado scare while on a road trip for a game at Stillman College, and food poisoning symptoms in Kansas City; the team overcame its fair share of obstacles, to put it lightly; and

WHEREAS, in the NAIA tournament, Loyola was led by forward, and the tournament's Most Valuable Player, Myles Burns who put up 17 points and 17 rebounds in the championship game for his thirteenth double-double of the season; the team also received huge contributions from Brandon Davis and Zach Wrightsil; and

WHEREAS, Loyola University New Orleans had numerous players named to the NAIA All-Tournament Team: Myles Burns, Zach Wrightsil, and Jalen Galloway; and

WHEREAS, the Loyola University New Orleans men's basketball team received numerous awards and honors for its play during the regular season as well; the team was the 2022 Southern States Athletic Conference Champion during the regular season and winner of the SSAC Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Loyola also received a number of incredible contributions from some of the NAIA's top players; Zach Wrightsil was named NAIA Player of the Year, SSAC Player of the Year, and a First-Team NAIA All-American; Myles Burns was named a Second-Team NAIA All-American, and Brandon Davis was named to the NAIA Honorable Mention All-American Team; Myles Burns also received the Marques Haynes Award for leading all divisions of college basketball in steals; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Stacey Hollowell is also an integral piece to the success of the Loyola University New Orleans men's basketball program; he was named both 2022 NAIA Coach of the Year and 2022 SSAC Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the Loyola University New Orleans men's basketball team accomplished an incredible and historic achievement by winning the NAIA national championship; they are most deserving of the highest recognition for their incredible season.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Loyola University New Orleans men's basketball team on winning the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics 2022 national championship; does hereby further recognize the significance of the team's victory, as it marks the university's first men's basketball national title in seventy-seven years; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that the program's success this season sparks the beginning of a new era of success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of Loyola University New Orleans.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES