

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 140

BY SENATOR HARRIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate the George Washington Carver boys' basketball team and coaches on winning their second straight state championship.

WHEREAS, having reached the state tournament for the fourth consecutive year and the state championship for the third straight time, the G.W. Carver boys' basketball team was determined to make another notable contribution to their growing legacy; and

WHEREAS, with a dominant defense, the Carver Rams seized the game's momentum and exerted control over the Madison Prep Chargers, ultimately securing a second consecutive state championship victory; and

WHEREAS, the Rams' back-to-back victories earned them the crown of the Division II Select State Championship at the Burton Coliseum Complex in Lake Charles, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Ram's triumph was due partly to impressive performances by six-foot-nine sophomore Daijon Leatherman who made consecutive buckets, pulled down 18 rebounds, and blocked four shots (one at the three-point line); his fellow senior teammate, Ken'Wyion White, made impactful contributions by sinking three-pointers from long range for 10 points, grabbing 12 rebounds and two assists, assented G.W. Carver dominance over Madison Prep; and

WHEREAS, in the third quarter, the Rams managed to create much needed space with a 14-2 run, allowing Leatherman and Hicks to contribute driving layups, while Laurence Nathan displayed his scoring prowess with game-winning abilities at the rim; and

WHEREAS, fighting through a four-minute slump, the Carver Rams held back the Madison Chargers to just 16 percent shooting with a strong defensive front, out rebounding the Chargers with a 50 to 26 advantage, giving Nathan time to seal the game with three clutch free throws; and

WHEREAS, the Carver Rams' powerful performance on the boards and by out-rebounding the Madison Chargers set the defensive tone for the game; Daijon

Leatherman and Ken'Wyion White acknowledged their coaches' prodigious guidance and by trusting each teammate as key elements lead to their emphatic second consecutive state championship win with a convincing final score of 34-25; and

WHEREAS, Jaylon Hicks, a senior for the Carver Rams, received recognition as the Outstanding Player after scoring 10 points and gathering six rebounds; he shared accolades with senior teammate, Ken'Wylon White, who finished with 10 points and 12 rebounds; and

WHEREAS, Nate Roche, the head coach of the Carver Rams, recognized the collective contributions of his entire varsity squad and coaching staff who secured another Class 4A championship; the roster of players includes Javan Anderson, Kendrick Bartholomew, Romeo Brown, Jaylon Hicks, Daijon Leatherman, Laurence Nathan, Chesney Sadler, Devinta Smith, Standley Waterhouse, Ken'Wyion White, and David Williams; along with fellow coaches Devin Andrew, Keith Ballard, Rodney Bartholomew, Blair Brinson, Nate Roche, and Chanel Roy; and

WHEREAS, the George Washington Carver Rams have become the second Orleans Parish school to win two consecutive basketball titles with this 2022-2023 championship win, painting their true testament to the values represented by their team mascot: pride, determination, initiative, and leadership.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the George Washington Carver boys' basketball team and coaches on winning their second straight state championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jerel Bryant, principal of George Washington Carver High School.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE