

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 117

BY SENATOR KLEINPETER

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Brusly High School boys basketball team upon winning the 2026 LHSAA Division II Non-Select State Championship.

WHEREAS, the Brusly High School Panthers boys basketball team has achieved the highest level of success in Louisiana high school athletics by capturing the 2026 Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) Division II Non-Select State Championship title; and

WHEREAS, the Panthers secured the championship with a hard-fought 45-38 victory over the two-time defending champion Wossman Wildcats on March 13, 2026, at Burton Coliseum in Lake Charles; and

WHEREAS, this victory marks only the second state championship in program history for Brusly High School and the first since 1984, making the achievement especially meaningful for the school and its community; and

WHEREAS, the Panthers' championship performance was highlighted by senior forward Ben Radford, who was named Most Outstanding Player after a dominant showing of 17 points, 17 rebounds, and 7 blocks; and

WHEREAS, senior Micah Bryant made critical contributions to the victory, sparking a decisive 7-0 run in the third quarter and finishing with 12 points, including a key three-pointer to begin the fourth quarter; and

WHEREAS, senior Kazi Murray added a crucial layup with 54 seconds remaining to extend the Panthers' lead and help secure the championship; and

WHEREAS, the team's defensive effort and composure under pressure proved decisive, as head coach Kirby Loupe credited the Panthers' ability to handle Wossman's defensive intensity as the key to the game, particularly following their semifinal loss to the Wildcats in the previous season; and

WHEREAS, the Panthers displayed exceptional teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship, representing Brusly High School and the community of West Baton Rouge Parish with pride and distinction; and

WHEREAS, the team's success reflects the outstanding leadership and commitment of its coaching staff, whose guidance and mentorship have been instrumental in developing both the athletic and personal character of the players; and

WHEREAS, the support of families, faculty, students, and the Brusly community played a vital role in encouraging and sustaining the team's championship run; and

WHEREAS, the Brusly High School basketball team's achievement serves as an inspiration to future student-athletes and stands as a proud moment in the school's history.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Brusly High School boys basketball team on winning the 2026 LHSAA Division II Non-Select State Championship and further recognizes the players, coaches, and supporters for their outstanding accomplishment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the principal of Brusly High School and the head coach of the boys basketball team.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE