

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 277

BY REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER

A RESOLUTION

To commend Jeffery Craig Whittington for his outstanding coaching career.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Jeffery Craig Whittington for his legacy as a mentor and leader of high school athletes and to commend him on his outstanding coaching career; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington began coaching at Bayou Chicot High School in 1989 and enjoyed a thirty-seven-year career at six schools; his love of sports and the outdoors guided his leadership approach, and he used athletics as a platform to teach responsibility, resilience, teamwork, and character; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington consistently elevated high school basketball programs throughout his career; he led four different schools to the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) State Tournament Final Four and won a district championship at every school where he coached; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington led Holy Savior Menard to its first-ever appearance in the state finals and a state runner-up finish, and he led Sacred Heart School to its first semifinals appearance; he led Pine Prairie High School to the school's only district championship since its 2005 consolidation; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington won four state titles as a head coach; during his tenure at University Academy of Central Louisiana, he claimed back-to-back championships in the Mid-South Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) in 2015 and 2016 and back-to-back LHSAA championships in 2020 and 2021; he won a state championship as an assistant coach at Glenmora High School in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington has received numerous awards for his impressive coaching successes; he earned thirteen District Coach of the Year awards, eight All-Parish

coaching honors, an All-Cenla Coach of the Year Award, and the 2015 MAIS All-State Coach of the Year Award; in 2021, he was selected as an assistant coach for the East All-Star Team; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington has cemented his place among the most accomplished coaches in Louisiana high school basketball history; over the course of his LHSAA coaching career, he recorded seven hundred thirty-three wins, including six hundred thirty-eight wins coaching girls basketball and ninety-five wins coaching boys basketball; he totaled one hundred seventy-five wins coaching in the MAIS; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington coached future NCAA Division I, NAIA, and NJCAA athletes; he guided players who earned All-Star recognition and mentored future LHSAA coaches who carry on his legacy of leadership; and

WHEREAS, in addition to basketball, Coach Whittington coached softball and earned nine district championships, numerous deep playoff runs, and coach of the year honors; his success across different sports highlights his lifelong dedication to athletic development; and

WHEREAS, Coach Whittington's family are the central focus of his life; he and his wife, April, have shared more than thirty-four years of marriage and are the proud parents of three daughters and grandparents of three grandsons; he anchors his work on the values of family, faith, and community; and

WHEREAS, Jeffery Craig Whittington is an outstanding leader whose many successes highlight his dedication to coaching and the mentorship of high school athletes; he is deserving of recognition for his incredible achievements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Jeffery Craig Whittington for his outstanding coaching career; does hereby express enduring appreciation for his mentorship of high school athletes in Louisiana; and does hereby extend sincere wishes that he continue to prosper in all of his endeavors.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES