

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 62

BY SENATOR PETERSON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Eleanor McMain Secondary School Mustangs on winning the 2021 4A State Championship in boys basketball.

WHEREAS, the 2021 boys basketball season ended as every player, parent, fan, and coach would have wanted; the McMain Mustangs boys basketball team won the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) Class 4A State Championship at Burton Coliseum in Lake Charles, Louisiana, on Saturday, March 14, 2021, in the most exciting way; and

WHEREAS, this boys basketball championship was the first basketball state championship to be played between two New Orleans public schools; and

WHEREAS, the Mustangs became state champions by defeating top-seeded George Washington Carver High School in a game that had five lead changes in the final three minutes before sophomore Corey Chest scored the winning point from the free-throw line with 0.7 seconds left to play; and

WHEREAS, the Mustangs defeated Carver by a score of forty-nine to forty-eight to clinch the championship; and

WHEREAS, with this victory, the Mustangs have earned their first state title during an unprecedented season under the leadership of Coach Steven Kelly and his amazing supporting staff and coaches; and

WHEREAS, this honor was earned by each member of the McMain Mustangs team, from Head Coach Steven Kelly and his staff of assistant coaches, Bryan Hammond, Willie Jones, Patrick Taylor, and Jemark Wise, to the players themselves: Christian Pichon, Nicolas Kaigler, Terwin Track, Alex Hammond, Malik Rhinehard, Taj Gilyot, Corey Chest, Aiden Bevrotte, Donte Briggs, Corey Holmes, Brandon Vigne, and Damien McCoy; and

WHEREAS, Coach Kelly and his staff have instilled an ethic of winning in these fine young men and has demonstrated leadership and motivational skills that have led to success both on and off the court for the McMain Mustangs; and

WHEREAS, the coaches and players sacrificed and spent countless hours preparing for this capstone achievement that will forever be memorialized in Louisiana high school sports history; and

WHEREAS, the coaches and players acknowledged that they could not have accomplished this amazing feat without a lot of hard work, dedication, teamwork, support from their parents, and the surrounding community, especially considering the additional challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, with the leadership of Coach Kelly, the McMinn Mustangs brought the state championship trophy home to their school, proud parents, and their supportive community; and

WHEREAS, the team dedicated the win to all of the students, faculty, staff, and coaches at the school; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the well-deserved title the Mustangs have earned, to commend the team for the talent and ability they have displayed, particularly at the most difficult level of competition, and to express sincere and heartfelt congratulations to team members and the coaching staff for the merits earned and the sportsmanship shown while achieving the highest state boys basketball honor possible for Eleanor McMinn Secondary School.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere congratulations to the Eleanor McMinn Secondary School Mustangs on winning the 2021 Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) 4A State Championship and does hereby recognize the team's outstanding performance and the pride and glory they have brought to their school and community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Steven Kelly, head coach of the Eleanor McMinn Secondary School Mustangs boys basketball team in New Orleans, Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES