

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 66

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the St. Augustine High School Purple Knights boys basketball team upon winning the 2025 Louisiana High School Athletic Association Division I Select State Championship.

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana takes great pride in recognizing and honoring the outstanding accomplishments of student-athletes who distinguish themselves through excellence, perseverance, and teamwork; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at Burton Coliseum in Lake Charles, Louisiana, the St. Augustine High School Purple Knights boys basketball team captured the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) Division I Select State Championship with a 45-35 victory over St. Thomas More; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Knights, seeded fourth entering the playoffs, demonstrated remarkable resilience and defensive prowess by holding third-seeded St. Thomas More scoreless throughout the third quarter and extending their lead in the fourth; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Wade Mason, in his first season leading the Purple Knights, instilled a defensive mindset and a spirit of relentless effort that were critical to the team's championship success; and

WHEREAS, Jakobe Sheppard was named the game's Outstanding Player after contributing ten points, seven rebounds, a key forced turnover late in the game, and a critical blocked shot with less than a minute remaining; and

WHEREAS, Aaron Miles led the Purple Knights in scoring with thirteen points, making all but one of his attempts from the free-throw line in a poised and disciplined performance; and

WHEREAS, Javardes Brazile provided crucial early momentum, scoring six points in the first quarter and finishing the game with eight points, while the Purple Knights' collective defensive effort consistently disrupted St. Thomas More's offensive rhythm; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Knights' path to victory was marked by strategic adjustments, such as assigning Shepard to handle inbound duties against St. Thomas More's press, and by the team's unwavering commitment to grinding out each possession through intense defensive focus; and

WHEREAS, this championship marks the seventh state title in the proud history of St. Augustine High School boys basketball and the first under Coach Wade Mason's leadership, further solidifying the program's tradition of excellence; and

WHEREAS, the achievements of the 2025 Purple Knights boys basketball team have brought great honor to their school, their families, and their community, and serve as an enduring source of pride and inspiration to all.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the St. Augustine High School Purple Knights boys basketball team on their outstanding 2025 season and their well-earned LHSAA Division I Select State Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Head Coach Wade Mason.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE