

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY SENATOR LONG

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Natchitoches Central High School Chiefs boys basketball team upon winning the 2014 Class 5A state championship.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the citizens and the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the unprecedented great honor achieved by the Natchitoches Central High School Chiefs boys basketball team upon the completion of a sensational 2014 season; and wishes to congratulate the players and coaches on winning the Class 5A boys basketball state championship; and

WHEREAS, the Natchitoches Central Chiefs finished the 2014 season with an exceptional overall record of thirty-one wins and only three losses, going out as the Class 5A state champions; and

WHEREAS, in the championship game number two ranked Natchitoches Central High School defeated top-seeded Scotlandville Magnet High School 60-53 with forty-six of the Chiefs' sixty points being scored inside the paint, ending Scotlandville's back-to-back state title championship winning streak; and

WHEREAS, the Chiefs victory claimed the first Class 5A state title for a boys sport at Natchitoches Central High School; and

WHEREAS, Austin Guy, a sophomore, led the Chiefs all year averaging 15 points per game and nine rebounds; Brandon Rachal's outstanding defense averaged 3.2 steals per game and was named all-district freshman; Andre Jackson, a senior standout, was named all-state point guard and finished district and playoff games averaging nine assists per game; Danny Cohen, a junior standout, was voted All-State in the Coaches' Association polls and finished the playoffs averaging twenty points per game; and sophomore standout Cameron Lard was MVP, receiving Outstanding Player honors in the final game in which he scored twenty-four points, made ten rebounds, and had six blocks; and

WHEREAS, additionally, each member of the team took part in the championship honors and performed at the highest level of excellence throughout the season, and each deserve recognition for his vital contributions to the winning effort; and

WHEREAS, the victorious members of the Natchitoches Central High School Chiefs boys basketball team consists of Ricky Metoyer, Danny Cohen, Donald Rachal, Darian Raymond, Andre Jackson, Austin Guy, Darien Jones, Chris Burks, Brandon Rachal, Michael Johnson, Keyth Johnson, Cameron Lard, Kimani Benjamin, Dyllon Weaver, and Decorrius Anderson, and managers Kolby Carter, Trey Reed, Ryan Woodard, JJ Payne, and Marquis King, trainer Lennis Watson, and statistician Warren Massia; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Micah Coleman, along with assistant coaches Kolton Sepulvado and Darius Burton have instilled in their players the kind of leadership and motivational skills needed to succeed both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, through its display of good sportsmanship and dedication to excellence, the Natchitoches Central High School boys basketball team has brought a tremendous sense of honor and pride to its school, its alumni and surrounding community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the members of the Natchitoches Central High School boys basketball team, coaches, and staff for winning the 2014 Class 5A state basketball championship, and does hereby express sincere and heartfelt congratulations to the Natchitoches Central Chiefs boys basketball team in recognition of their outstanding athletic abilities and their thrilling season, and does hereby extend to the team and its coaches best wishes for success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Coach Micah Coleman, and Principal Dale Skinner.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE