

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 313

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the coaches and members of the Haywood High School boys' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I Class AA state championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those student-athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as true champions of whom we all can be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Haywood High School Tomcats boys' basketball team have proven themselves to be the fiercest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard, as they recently won the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I Class AA state championship; and

WHEREAS, in capping off their stellar 35–2 record with the championship win, the Tomcats achieved the school's first state championship in any team sport, winning their last seventeen games in a row; and

WHEREAS, enjoying an undefeated season against teams from Tennessee, the Tomcats were Division I District 15 AA champions, Division I District 15 AA Tournament champions, Division I Region 8 AA champions, and Division I Class AA Sectional champions; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2015, the Haywood High School team beat Fulton High School 47–33 to claim the state championship title that eluded the Tomcats in 1974 and 1978; and

WHEREAS, the Tomcats hit fifty-three percent of their shots from the floor while playing a successful defensive game that held the Fulton team to nine points or fewer in each of the first three quarters; and

WHEREAS, multiple members of the Haywood High School team were recognized for their abilities on the court; Jordon Varnado, who enjoyed his third straight double-double during the championship game, was named State Tournament MVP, and he, along with Dedric Boyd and Kyler Douglas, were named to the All-Tournament team; and

WHEREAS, the members of this championship team are Detarion Boyd, Jalen Benton, Alandis Delk, James Davidson, Jordon Varnado, Kyler Douglas, Martravius Washington, Keyshawn Brummett, Benjamin Dix, Lakendrick Callaway, Jatavius McGuire, Kortavious Jones, Kentavious Wilson, Emit Gooden, Dedric Boyd, Tristan Jarrett, and Shuraveun Hines; and

WHEREAS, the team enjoyed the unfailing leadership and support of Head Coach Kendall Dancy, Assistant Coaches Rodney Chatman and Grover Harwell, and Manager Tyler Morton; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Haywood High School Tomcats epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they achieved a premier level of success in competition while exhibiting the highest degree of character in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship season, but also surely bode well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the members of the Haywood High School boys' basketball team for their outstanding performance and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the coaches and members of the Haywood High School Tomcats boys' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I Class AA state championship, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.