

HOUSE RESOLUTION 150

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to recognize the 8th Mark Kendall Bingham Memorial Tournament, May 22-29, 2016, in Nashville.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those prestigious international sporting events to be held in the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such international event is the 8th Mark Kendall Bingham Memorial Tournament, the Bingham Cup, the biennial international championship of International Gay Rugby, which returns to the United States for the first time since 2010, to be held in Nashville on May 22-29, 2016; and

WHEREAS, never before held in the South, the 2016 Bingham Cup will be hosted by the Nashville Grizzlies RFC and will bring over 1,500 players and guests from around the globe to Nashville, with lodging and events to be held on the campus of Vanderbilt University and all games set to take place at the Ted Rhodes Sports Complex; and

WHEREAS, established in 2002, the Bingham Cup was named in honor of the late Mark Kendall Bingham, a former college rugby star who died in the September 11, 2001, attacks on board United Airlines Flight 93. He was one of a group of passengers who fought with the hijackers aboard the flight, preventing them from hitting targets in Washington, D.C., as the plane crashed instead into a vacant field in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, expected to be the largest Bingham Cup since the event's inception, the 2016 Bingham Cup's week-long roster of activities will include rugby clinics and tourist events leading up to the playoffs and Saturday's championship game; and

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate that the members of this body recognize this acclaimed international event to be held in the Volunteer State for the first time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and recognize the 8th Mark Kendall Bingham Memorial Tournament to be held May 22-29, 2016, in Nashville, as we congratulate the Nashville Grizzlies RFC on their winning bid to host this prestigious event and extend to them our best wishes for a successful tournament.

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