

2026 -- H 8358

=====
LC006096
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
TEAM ON WINNING THE 2026 ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP
TOURNAMENT AND EARNING A BERTH IN THE 2026 NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
TOURNAMENT

Introduced By: Representatives McEntee, Fogarty, Tanzi, Craven, Shekarchi,
Blazejewski, Caldwell, Chippendale, Paplauskas, and Hull

Date Introduced: March 26, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The University of Rhode Island Women's Basketball team had a historic
2 2025-2026 season, one that includes an outstanding overall record of 28-4, a 16-2 conference
3 record that was only matched by George Mason University, and which culminated with a victory
4 in the 2026 Atlantic 10 Conference Championship Tournament and the program's second-ever
5 trip to the Women's NCAA Tournament; and

6 WHEREAS, In the Atlantic 10 Tournament, the Rams dispatched Loyola of Chicago in
7 the first round by seven points and defeated Davidson by nine points in the semifinals to set up a
8 championship match against George Mason for the title. In a hard-fought game, George Mason
9 jumped out to the early lead, 15-7 at the end of the first quarter and at one point in the second
10 quarter, led by double-digits. The Rams proceeded to stage a furious rally, and only trailed by 1
11 point at the half. The Rams jumped out to a seven point lead in the third quarter, and then played
12 ferocious defense the rest of the game to cling to a slim lead and pull out a 53-51 victory thanks
13 in large part to the stellar play by the Rams Albina Sylva, named Most Outstanding Player of the
14 Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament and her fellow Atlantic 10 All-Championship teammates,
15 Brooklyn Gray and Sophia Vital; and

16 WHEREAS, The Rams squad was led all season by the outstanding play by stellar Senior
17 Guard Brooklyn Gray, who earned Atlantic 10 All-Conference First Team honors and All-
18 Academic honors, while leading the team in points scored and points per game. She also shot an

1 incredible 91.3 percent from the free-throw line. Other key contributors to the Rams outstanding
2 season include Sophomore Center Albina Sylla who led the Rams in rebounding, Junior Guard
3 Sophia Vital who earned All-Second Team Atlantic 10 honors, Senior Forward Palmire Mbu,
4 who was second on the Rams squad in scoring and rebounding and earned All-Third Team
5 Atlantic 10 honors, Senior Guard Ines Debroise, who earned All-Defensive Team Atlantic 10
6 honors, and Freshman Guard Vanessa Harris who earned All-Rookie Team honors and the Sixth
7 Woman of the Year Award from the Atlantic 10 Conference; and

8 WHEREAS, The Rams were blessed to be led all season by the stellar coaching and
9 superb leadership provided by Head Coach Tammi Reiss, Atlantic 10 Coach of the Year Award
10 Winner. Ms. Reiss played basketball at the University of Virginia and in the WNBA, and since
11 becoming the Rams Head Coach in 2019, she has enjoyed four seasons of 20 or more wins, tied
12 for first twice in the Atlantic 10 regular season, participated in two WNIT Tournaments, and this
13 season won the Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament Championship, and a berth in the NCAA
14 Women's Basketball Tournament; now, therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
16 heartily congratulates the University of Rhode Island Women's Basketball Team on the
17 outstanding success of their 2025-2026 season, which includes the incredible achievement of
18 winning the 2026 Atlantic 10 Women's Conference Tournament and earning a place in the 2026
19 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Tammi Reiss, Head Coach of the University of
22 Rhode Island Women's Basketball Team.

=====
LC006096
=====