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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE PROVIDENCE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL "KNIGHTS" BOYS
BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2011-2012 RHODE ISLAND BOYS DIVISION
ONE STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Introduced By: Senators Metts, Ruggerio, Paiva Weed, Walaska, and Pinga

Date Introduced: May 17, 2012

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, In a Rhode Island Boys Division One basketball season filled with parity
2 and excitement, it was the Central High School Boys Basketball team who emerged victorious
3 and claimed the school's first boys basketball state title since 1992; and

4 WHEREAS, Comebacks, thrills, and exciting finishes filled the state tournament, where
5 the 5th seeded Knights of Central High School were able to keep their composure and navigate
6 their way through five exciting and close games to win the state title. They began their playoff
7 run by dispatching Central Falls in a 68-60 victory. In their second playoff game, the Knights
8 emerged from a half-time deficit to defeat Westerly in a thrilling 63-61 finish. In their third game,
9 they played arch-rival Classical High School 83-77 in overtime. After beating Rogers High
10 School 54-46 in the Semi-Finals, Central High School faced Hope High School for the State
11 Championship; and

12 WHEREAS, In the State Championship, Central High School roared back from an 11-
13 point deficit to defeat Hope High School 66-59 and claim the 2011-2012 state title. Central High
14 School was led to victory by the phenomenal play all season of Rhode Island Gatorade Player of
15 the Year Senior Co-Captain Jarrell Lawson and by the incredible performance of Sophomore
16 guard Jerelle Washington, who scored 28 points and was as chosen Central's Outstanding Player
17 of the Game; and

18 WHEREAS, To win a state title, it takes more than just great performances by one or two
19 players. It takes an entire team dedicated to working tirelessly towards one goal, that of winning

1 the state title. Central High School could not have done so without the contributions of everyone
2 on the team, which, in addition to Lawson and Washington, included Co-Captain Daniel Mendez,
3 Brownell Dennis, Jeremy Guileen, Raikwon Rodrigues, Andres Brito, Marcus Mitchell, Steven-
4 Kolawole Ajao, Jouandi Perez, and Fabio Pimental. Central High School was also led by an
5 experienced and highly regarded coaching staff, including Head Coach Todd Keefe, Assistant
6 Coach Frank Rose, and Volunteer Tom Earl Connors; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
8 hereby congratulates the Central High School Boys Basketball Team on winning the 2011-2012
9 Rhode Island Boys Basketball Division One State Title; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Central High School Boys Basketball Head
12 Coach, Mr. Todd Keefe.

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