

2018 -- H 7948

LC005236

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**CONGRATULATING THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR
MAKING THE FINALS OF THE BIG EAST BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AND FOR
EARNING A BID IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT FOR THE FIFTH STRAIGHT YEAR,
THE MOST IN THE SCHOOL'S HISTORY**

Introduced By: Representatives Mattiello, Amore, Morgan, Corvese, and Fogarty

Date Introduced: March 14, 2018

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Providence College Friars Basketball Team has won twenty or more
2 games for the fifth straight season and will be participating in the NCAA Basketball Tournament
3 a school record five straight years. This season, the Friars have thus far compiled an excellent 21-
4 13 record accompanied by a tie for third place in the always tough Big East Conference. At the
5 Big East Conference Tournament at Madison Square Garden, Providence thrilled their followers
6 as they made a fierce run for the title, knocking off Creighton in overtime in the quarterfinals, the
7 top 15 nationally ranked Xavier Musketeers once again in overtime in the semi-finals, before
8 falling in overtime in a hard-fought contest in the championship game to top 5 nationally ranked
9 Villanova; and

10 WHEREAS, The current edition of the Friars were led all season by the exemplary
11 veteran leadership and sterling play provided by Seniors Rodney Bullock, Kyron Cartwright and
12 Jalen Lindsey. Forward Rodney Bullock led the squad in scoring, averaging 14 points per game
13 and providing much needed interior defense and rebounding. Guard Kyron Cartwright averaged
14 11.8 points per game and led the team in steals and assists with 5.7 per game, and Guard Jalen
15 Lindsey who finished fourth on the team in scoring, averaging 8.9 points per game. Providence
16 also benefited all season from the important contributions provided by Sophomore Guard Alpha
17 Diallo who finished second on the team in scoring with 13 points per game and led the team in
18 rebounding with 6.6 per game, Center Nate Watson, who was named to the Big East All-Rookie

1 Team, and Junior Guard Isiah Jackson, who led the team in free throw percentage with a 78.2
2 average; and

3 WHEREAS, Once again, the Providence College Basketball Team was led by Head
4 Coach Ed Cooley, who is fast gaining a reputation as one of the elite basketball coaches in the
5 nation. Widely admired for his innovative coaching and ability to motivate and connect with his
6 players, Coach Cooley once again had the Friars competing at the elite level in college basketball.
7 His team knocked off top 15 ranked Xavier twice this season, and defeated top 5 ranked
8 Villanova once this season as Coach Cooley led the team to its fifth straight twenty-win season
9 and a school record fifth straight NCAA Tournament appearance; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
11 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates the Providence College Men's Basketball Team for
12 making the Finals of the Big East Tournament and for earning a bid in the NCAA Tournament for
13 the fifth straight year, the most in the school's history. We furthermore wish the Providence
14 College Friars well in the NCAA Tournament and will be cheering them on to victory against
15 Texas A&M in the first round of the NCAA Tournament; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Ed Cooley, Head Coach, Providence
18 College Men's Basketball Team.

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