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2 212752-1  
3 By Senators Allen, Smitherman, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley,  
4 Butler, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott,  
5 Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Holley, Jones, Livingston,  
6 Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts,  
7 Sanders-Fortier, Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton,  
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Whatley and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 15-APR-21

8 COMMENDING THE 2020-2021 UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA MEN'S  
9 BASKETBALL TEAM FOR ITS HISTORIC SEASON.

10  
11 WHEREAS, the 2020-2021 University of Alabama men's  
12 basketball team, led by head coach and SEC Coach of the Year  
13 Nate Oats, concluded its historic season with both a  
14 regular-season conference championship and a conference  
15 tournament championship, as well as the team's best NCAA  
16 Tournament performance in three decades, among numerous other  
17 individual and team accolades; and

18 WHEREAS, in only his second year at The University,  
19 head coach Nate Oats won regional and national accolades for  
20 his coaching performance that produced a 26-7 conference  
21 championship season and a 10-game in-conference winning  
22 streak, firmly establishing the team as the basketball  
23 champions of the conference; indeed, Coach Nate Oats, in his  
24 short time in Tuscaloosa, has already added to the reputation  
25 of The University as a "championship school"; and

26 WHEREAS, individual honors are due to seniors Herb  
27 Jones, John Petty, Jr., and Alex Reese; Herb Jones, who won

1 the title of SEC Player of the Year, was the heart and soul of  
2 the roster, and, with his defensive grit and offensive energy,  
3 he was the cornerstone of the team's identity; John Petty,  
4 Jr., a rare two-time winner of the Alabama Mr. Basketball  
5 award, withdrew from the 2020 NBA draft in order to stay with  
6 his college team, and showed his skill and potential during a  
7 season when he became the all-time 3-point scoring leader for  
8 Alabama basketball; Alex Reese, although nominally an inside  
9 player, always seemed to deliver his sharpshooting skills  
10 whenever his team needed him most, and was a frequent spark of  
11 the Crimson Tide offense; and

12 WHEREAS, commendations are extended to Cameron Luke  
13 Ratliff, known nationally as Alabama basketball's premiere  
14 superfan, who led the way in galvanizing the student body and  
15 The University community into one of the nation's most active  
16 college basketball fanbases; when the team cut down the nets  
17 after winning the conference championship, Luke was given a  
18 piece by the coaching staff as a symbol of his importance to  
19 the program; special condolences are offered to his friends  
20 and family, as Luke tragically passed away shortly after the  
21 conclusion of the team's season; and

22 WHEREAS, above all, The 2020-2021 University of  
23 Alabama men's basketball team sparked the beginning of a new  
24 era of Alabama men's basketball during a season that will  
25 forever be remembered; each member of the team, its coaching  
26 staff, and support personnel, as well as superfan Cameron Luke

Ratliff, have all truly writ their names in crimson flame; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That The 2020-2021 University of Alabama men's basketball team, its coaching staff, and support personnel are commended and congratulated for their historic season, one that added to the reputation of the State of Alabama as a "basketball state" and offered the residents of this state many shining moments during a year of many tribulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to head coach Nate Oats; to seniors Herb Jones, John Petty, Jr., and Alex Reese; to the members of the Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama, Chancellor Finis E. St. John IV, University of Alabama Athletic Director Greg Byrne, and President Stuart Bell; as well as the family of Cameron Luke Ratliff, as small tokens of our heartfelt congratulations and commendations.