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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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, individual honors are due to seniors Herb
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

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

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

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