

SJR54 INTRODUCED



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2 8E1PFHH-1

3 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,
4 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison,
5 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones,
6 Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed,
7 Roberts, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart,
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

9 RFD:

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SJR_____ CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH NATE OATS FOR ACHIEVING THE PROGRAM'S FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL FOUR.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride and special pleasure that highest commendations and congratulations are herein conveyed to The University of Alabama (UA) men's basketball team's coaches and players for achieving the program's first appearance in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Men's Basketball Championship Final Four; and

WHEREAS, Coach Oats came to The University of Alabama as an experienced coach with an impressive resume; Coach Oats began his coaching career as an assistant coach at his alma mater, Maranatha Baptist University, from 1997-2000; from there, he coached as an assistant coach at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater from 2000-2002; Coach Oats received his first head coaching position with the Romulus High School Eagles in Michigan where he coached from 2002-2013; after his high school head coaching career, Coach Oats returned to collegiate basketball coaching as an assistant coach at the University at Buffalo (UB) in 2013, which was his first NCAA Division I coaching position; and, just two years later, Coach Oats was named UB's head coach



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29 in 2015 where he remained until coming to UA in 2019; and
30 WHEREAS, in Coach Oat's first four seasons as a NCAA
31 Division I head coach, he led UB to a 96-43 overall record;
32 in his final season with UB, Coach Oats led UB to a record
33 27 wins and the program's third NCAA Tournament appearance
34 in four years; and Coach Oats holds a 214-98 overall record
35 as a collegiate head basketball coach and a 222-52 overall
36 record as a high school head basketball coach; and

37 WHEREAS, as head coach of the Crimson Tide, Nate
38 Oats, has forged UA's men's basketball into a power-house
39 program that commands the respect of the college basketball
40 world; since Coach Oats arrived in Tuscaloosa just five
41 years ago, he has led UA to a 117-54 overall record and a
42 25-12 record for the 2023-2024 season, two Southeastern
43 Conference (SEC) regular season titles in 2021 and 2023, two
44 SEC Tournament championships in 2021 and 2023, four NCAA
45 Tournament appearances in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, and
46 three Sweet 16 appearances in 2021, 2023, and 2024; and this
47 year, Coach Oats has led the Crimson Tide to the program's
48 second Elite Eight appearance and the program's first Final
49 Four appearance; and

50 WHEREAS, in the program's first NCAA Men's Basketball
51 Elite Eight appearance since 2004, the No. 4 seed Alabama
52 Crimson Tide defeated the No. 6 seed Clemson Tigers by a
53 score of 89-82 on March 30, 2024, to become the NCAA
54 Tournament West Region champions; and this historic win was
55 UA's eighth win in the NCAA Tournament in the last four
56 seasons; and



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57 WHEREAS, the Crimson Tide took on the No. 1 seed and
58 East Region champion, the University of Connecticut Huskies,
59 in the 2024 NCAA Final Four on April 6, 2024; now therefore,

60 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
61 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That this body highly
62 congratulates and commends The University of Alabama Men's
63 Basketball team's players and coaches on a historic and
64 unprecedented performance in reaching the Final Four of the
65 NCAA Tournament; and, along with best wishes for continued
66 success, we hereby dedicate this resolution to The
67 University of Alabama Men's Basketball program with great
68 admiration and respect.