

By Senator Crist

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20092814

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the accomplishments of the University of South Florida Bulls women's basketball program and commending the 2008-2009 team and coaching staff on winning the Women's National Invitation Tournament Title.

WHEREAS, Florida's universities offer a world of opportunity to young men and women through intercollegiate sports, and

WHEREAS, student athletes enrolled in the University of South Florida benefit from a quality academic experience and top-level athletic competition, and

WHEREAS, the USF Women's Basketball Team competes in the nation's premier college basketball conference, the Big East Athletic Conference, and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Jose Fernandez and the 2008-2009 players, Crystal Ayers, Melissa Dalembert, Brittany Denson, Shantia Grace, Porche Grant, Jessica Lawson, Ashley Sanders, Jazmine Sepulveda, Allyson Speed, Janae Stokes, Kelsey Varney, and Jasmine Wynne completed the most successful season in the program's history, setting a record for most wins in a season, and

WHEREAS, the University of South Florida Women's Basketball Team won more games during the 2008-2009 season than any other Florida NCAA Division I college basketball program, with the Green-and-Gold ranking in the top five in the nation in scoring throughout the season, averaging 78 points per game, and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Jose Fernandez has recorded the most

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30 career wins by a head basketball coach in the program's history,
31 and

32 WHEREAS, on Saturday, April 4, 2009, the University of
33 South Florida captured the Women's National Invitation
34 Tournament Title, defeating the University of Kansas by a final
35 score of 75-71, and

36 WHEREAS, Sarasota's own Senior Guard Shantia Grace, a
37 First-Team All-Big East performer during the regular season, was
38 named the Most Valuable Player of the Women's National
39 Invitation Tournament, and

40 WHEREAS, the USF Women's Basketball Team and their fine
41 Bulls coaching staff stand tall as yet another reason for Bull
42 Pride for the more than 4 million people in USF's 10-county
43 Tampa Bay service area and in the State of Florida, NOW,
44 THEREFORE,

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46 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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48 That the members of the Florida Senate recognize the
49 profound accomplishments of the University of South Florida
50 Bulls Women's Basketball program, commend the 2008-2009 team and
51 coaching staff for this championship run, and express gratitude
52 for the honor that the team has brought to the state.