

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 62

BY SENATOR BISHOP

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate the University of New Orleans (UNO) men's basketball team on being selected to play in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned that the University of New Orleans men's basketball team was selected to play in the NCAA Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the University of New Orleans punched their ticket to the NCAA Tournament winning the Southland Conference Tournament by knocking off Texas A&M-Corpus Christi in overtime 68-65 in Katy, Texas, on Saturday, March 11, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the next day, the team held a selection show watch party on campus, where the Privateers found out they were selected to be the sixteen-seed in the East Region, playing in the first four play-in game against NEC Champion, Mount St. Mary's; and

WHEREAS, this is UNO's first appearance in the NCAA Tournament since 1996 and the UNO team was beyond excited to be a part of the "Big Dance" (NCAA Tournament) this year; and

WHEREAS, UNO men's basketball Head Coach Mark Slessinger said "what an amazing feeling for everybody... our city's back a champion again"; and

WHEREAS, UNO senior forward Erik Thomas stated "it is a blessing to be a part of the NCAA and going "dancing"... March Madness means the most to us...all our hard work paid-off for us and I am just extremely happy"; and

WHEREAS, "For them to get a payoff in this," Slessinger said, "this is what makes this thing special... and as a coach, this is what it's all about".

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the UNO men's basketball team on being selected to play in the NCAA Tournament.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to UNO men's basketball Head Coach Mark Slessinger.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE