#### SLS 23RS-401

#### **ORIGINAL**

#### 2023 Regular Session

### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

## BY SENATORS MIZELL, BARROW, CLOUD, HEWITT AND JACKSON AND REPRESENTATIVES BOYD, BUTLER, DAVIS, DUBUISSON, EDMONSTON, EMERSON, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, HILFERTY, HODGES, HORTON, LAFLEUR, LANDRY, MARCELLE, MOORE, NEWELL, PHELPS, SCHLEGEL, THOMAS, VILLIO AND WHITE

COMMENDATIONS. Commends and congratulates the Louisiana State University Tigers Womens Basketball team on winning their first NCAA Basketball Championship.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To commend and congratulate the Louisiana State University Tigers womens basketball
3	team on the occasion of winning the university's first NCAA basketball
4	championship.
5	WHEREAS, on April 2, 2023, in Dallas, Texas, the Louisiana State University (LSU)
6	womens basketball team defeated the University of Iowa Hawkeyes in dominating fashion
7	by a score of 102 to 85 to claim LSU's first NCAA basketball championship; and
8	WHEREAS, in Coach Kim Mulkey's second season at LSU and with only moderate
9	expectations, such as a preseason ranking of sixteen in the Associated Press writers' poll and
10	a predicted third-place finish in the SEC preseason media poll, the Tigers roared through the
11	season with only two losses en route to a number three seed in the NCAA Womens
12	Basketball Tournament; and
13	WHEREAS, the Tigers hosted the first and second rounds of the NCAA Tournament
14	at the Maravich Assembly Center before raucous hometown crowds, defeating Hawaii
15	(73-50) and Michigan (66-42); and
16	WHEREAS, LSU moved on to the Sweet Sixteen in Greenville, South Carolina,
17	defeating Utah (66-63) and Miami (54-42) in the Elite Eight; and
18	WHEREAS, in the Final Four semi-finals in Dallas, LSU won a hard-fought victory

1	over number one seed Virginia Tech by a score of 79-72; and
2	WHEREAS, with the victory over Virginia Tech, the Tigers advanced to the national
3	championship game for the first time in school history to tangle with the Hawkeyes from
4	Iowa; and
5	WHEREAS, the Tigers' championship game victory on Sunday, April 2, 2023, was
6	the highest rated womens college basketball game in television history with an average of
7	9.9 million viewers, peaking at 12.6 million viewers; and
8	WHEREAS, many sports writers are calling the LSU-Iowa championship a
9	"game-changing" event in the history of womens college basketball; and
10	WHEREAS, the national champion Tigers consist of the following players:
11	(1) Sophomore forward Angel Reese from Baltimore, Maryland - All-Tournament
12	Team and Tournament Most Outstanding Player, AP First Team All-American, First Team
13	All-SEC, and SEC All-Defensive Team;
14	(2) Fifth-year senior guard Alexis Morris from Beaumont, Texas- All-Tournament
15	Team and First Team All-SEC;
16	(3) Graduate student guard Jasmine Carson from Memphis,
17	Tennessee-All-Tournament Team;
18	(4) Freshman guard Flau'jae Johnson from Savannah, Georgia - SEC Freshman of
19	the Year and SEC All Freshman Team;
20	(5) Freshman forward Sa'Myah Smith from DeSoto, Texas - SEC All Freshman
21	Team;
22	(6) Graduate student forward LaDazhia Williams from Bradenton, Florida;
23	(7) Senior forward Emily Ward from Bossier City, Louisiana;
24	(8) Sophomore forward Amani Bartlett from Cleveland, Texas;
25	(9) Sophomore guard Last-Tear Poa from Melbourne, Australia;
26	(10) Sophomore guard Kateri Poole from Bronx, New York;
27	(11) Freshman guard Izzy Besselman from Baton Rouge, Louisiana;
28	(12) Freshman forward Alisa Williams from Denton, Texas; and
29	WHEREAS, the national championship team was supported by a well-regarded and
30	highly-respected staff, including the following:

SLS 23RS-401

# ORIGINAL SCR NO. 5

1	(1) Bob Starkey, associate head coach;
2	(2) Daphne Mitchell, assistant coach;
3	(3) Gary Redus II, assistant coach;
4	(4) Johnny Derrick, assistant athletic director and director of operations;
5	(5) Jennifer Roberts, director of player personnel and influence;
6	(6) Kaylin Rice, director of womens basketball recruiting;
7	(7) Chante' Crutchfield, assistant director for operations and recruiting;
8	(8) Joe Schwartz, assistant director for operations;
9	(9) Jordin Westbrook, director of operations and special assistant to head coach;
10	(10) Renee Braud, administrative coordinator;
11	(11) Thomas Lené, assistant strength and conditioning coach;
12	(12) Amanda Barbee, associate athletic trainer; and
13	WHEREAS, in 2021, Head Coach Kim Mulkey, a native of Tickfaw, Louisiana,
14	returned home to lead the Tigers as the most decorated, most honored womens college
15	player and coach in the history of the sport, with honors such as: four-time state champion
16	at Hammond High School; class valedictorian at Hammond High School; All-American
17	point guard at Louisiana Tech University (Tech); two-time national champion as a player
18	at Tech; summa cum laude graduate of Tech; winner of the inaugural Frances Pomeroy
19	Naismith Award; gold medalist at the 1983 Pan American Games in Caracas, Venezuela;
20	gold medalist at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, California; one national championship
21	as an assistant coach at Tech; three-time national champion as the head coach at Baylor
22	University; nine-time national coach of the year; Class of 1990 inductee into the Louisiana
23	Sports Hall of Fame; Class of 1992 inductee into the Louisiana Tech Athletic Hall of Fame;
24	Class of 2000 inductee into the Womens Basketball Hall of Fame as a player; Class of 2020
25	inductee into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame as a coach; and the only
26	person in college basketball history to win a national championship as a player, assistant
27	coach, and head coach; and
28	WHEREAS, the joy of this incredible season will live in the hearts of LSU fans

forever and the Tigers' dominance will set the new standard of excellence in the annals of
womens college basketball; and

### ORIGINAL SCR NO. 5

1	WHEREAS, local interest in the team set an all-time Maravich Assembly Center
2	attendance record for all events of 15,721 during the regular season; and
3	WHEREAS, the transcendent television ratings of the championship game may very
4	well be viewed as the game that "changed the game" for womens college basketball; and
5	WHEREAS, it is most appropriate to recognize and express enduring appreciation
6	for the immense pride and genuine honor that the 2022-2023 LSU Tigers womens basketball
7	team has brought to the state of Louisiana, the world of womens college basketball, and the
8	advancement of womens sports in general.
9	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
10	commend the Louisiana State University Tigers womens basketball team on winning the
11	2022-2023 NCAA national championship and does hereby recognize and congratulate the
12	team, the coaching and support staff, Head Coach Kim Mulkey, and the entire LSU family
13	on this momentous, transcendent, consequential, and historic achievement.
14	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
15	Louisiana State University Athletic Director Scott Woodward.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

SCR 5 Original

DIGEST 2023 Regular Session

Mizell

Commends the LSU Tigers womens basketball team on the occasion of winning the university's first NCAA basketball championship.