

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

**S**

**D**

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION DRSJR15252-LG-173 (04/28)**

---

Sponsors:     Senator Rand.

---

Referred to:

---

1    A JOINT RESOLUTION DECLARING THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT  
2    CHAPEL HILL MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM A NORTH CAROLINA INSTITUTION  
3    AND CONGRATULATING THEM ON SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
4    RESULTING IN THE 2009 NCAA DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIP.

5           Whereas, Dr. James A. Naismith created the sport of basketball in 1891 and  
6    believed that all people should "be strong in body, clean in mind, lofty in ideals"; and

7           Whereas, Dr. Naismith was instrumental in establishing basketball as a collegiate  
8    sport, serving as one of the game's first college coaches at the University of Kansas; and

9           Whereas, college basketball programs quickly sprang up all over the country after  
10   Dr. Naismith's creation became well-publicized, leading to the formation of conferences to  
11   govern and organize competition; and

12           Whereas, one of the first conferences to be organized was the Southern  
13   Intercollegiate Athletic Association, founded in 1894, and one of its charter members was the  
14   University of North Carolina; and

15           Whereas, the University of North Carolina's men's basketball program has been one  
16   historically identified with the beliefs Dr. Naismith espoused; and

17           Whereas, the 2008-2009 men's basketball season began with the North Carolina Tar  
18   Heels as the consensus Number One team in the major national polls; and

19           Whereas, the 2008-2009 Carolina men's basketball team finished Number One in  
20   the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) regular season for a record 27th time with a 13-3 record;  
21   and

22           Whereas, while it is generally recognized that a team's performance during the  
23   regular season is important and often worthy of praise and remembrance, the three-week period  
24   during which the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) basketball championship is  
25   decided captivates the attention of the citizens of our great nation like no other event; and

26           Whereas, the various stages of this three-week competition are known by several  
27   different names, such as March Madness (although this year it ended in April), the Big Dance,  
28   the Sweet Sixteen, the Elite Eight, the Final Four, and the NCAA Division I Championship;  
29   and

30           Whereas, Carolina entered the 2009 version of March Madness as the Number One  
31   seed in the South Regional, the 13th time Carolina has earned a top seed since the NCAA  
32   selection committee began seeding the teams (with no other school being a Number One seed  
33   more than 10 times); and

34           Whereas, Carolina's first four wins in the 2009 tournament over Radford, Louisiana  
35   State, Gonzaga, and Oklahoma sent the Tar Heels to an NCAA record 18th Final Four, and  
36   their ninth Final Four in the last 19 years, the third time in the last five years that Carolina has



1 played in the Final Four. No other ACC team has reached a regional final in those five years;  
2 and

3           Whereas, Carolina's next two victories over Villanova and Michigan State made the  
4 Tar Heels the 2008-2009 men's basketball National Champions, confirming both their  
5 preseason Number One ranking and the predictions of their scrimmage partner, President  
6 Barack Obama; and

7           Whereas, Carolina's national championship victory came in a game with the largest  
8 attendance in NCAA championship game history (72,922) and gave the Tar Heels 102 victories  
9 in NCAA men's basketball tournament play, the most of any team in NCAA history; and

10           Whereas, the 2009 Tar Heels broke the record for the most points scored in the first  
11 half of a championship game (55) and the record for the largest halftime lead (21), became the  
12 first team to win all six games by at least 12 points in the NCAA Tournament, and now have  
13 the second-largest point differential in NCAA tournament history (+121); and

14           Whereas, the 89-72 Carolina win over Michigan State was a convincing and  
15 thorough victory but one that left intact Duke's record for the worst loss in Final Four history  
16 (103-73 to UNLV in 1990); and

17           Whereas, the 2008-2009 title is Carolina's fifth NCAA championship in men's  
18 basketball, tying the Tar Heels for third place but giving them more national championships  
19 than any other school in North Carolina; and

20           Whereas, the 1924 Carolina men's basketball team, which went 25-0, was chosen by  
21 a panel of experts at the Helms Athletic Foundation to have been the country's best team and  
22 was named "National Champion" in men's college basketball that year as well, said national  
23 championship being the first men's basketball national championship won by a team from the  
24 South; and

25           Whereas, Carolina now has the most NCAA men's basketball championships in the  
26 "modern era" (defined to be that period after UCLA's last championship under John Wooden);  
27 and

28           Whereas, the senior players on Carolina's 2009 National Champion men's basketball  
29 team include Mike Copeland, Bobby Frasier, Marcus Ginyard, Danny Green, Tyler  
30 Hansbrough, Patrick Moody, J.B. Tanner, and Jack Wooten; and

31           Whereas, the senior class of 2009 won 124 games during their four years at  
32 Carolina, the most wins by any one class in Carolina history; and

33           Whereas, the senior players named above were undefeated in all away games played  
34 within a 12-mile radius of Chapel Hill; and

35           Whereas, Tyler Hansbrough was an All-American all four years he played at  
36 Carolina, was the consensus 2008 men's basketball National Player of the Year, won the  
37 Lowe's Senior Award in 2009, which recognizes student athletes for staying in school all four  
38 years and for academic, community, and athletic achievement, is the only player in ACC  
39 history to be a unanimous First Team All-ACC selection for four years, holds NCAA records  
40 for most free throws made (982), for most points (2,872), most games scoring in double figures  
41 (133), most games scoring 20 or more points (78), most free throw attempts (1,241), and is the  
42 only player in ACC history to lead his team in scoring and rebounding all four years; and

43           Whereas, Ty Lawson was the 2009 ACC men's basketball Player of the Year, was  
44 the 2009 NCAA South Regional MVP, was a consensus Second Team All-American, won the  
45 2009 Bob Cousy Award, given to the nation's top point guard, and set the NCAA championship  
46 game record for steals with eight; and

47           Whereas, Wayne Ellington was named the Most Outstanding Player of the 2009  
48 Final Four and broke the Final Four record for highest three-point field goal percentage (a  
49 record previously held by fellow Tar Heel Donald Williams); and

50           Whereas, Danny Green set Carolina career records for most games played (145),  
51 most wins (123), and is the only player in ACC history with 1,000 points, 500 rebounds, 250

1 assists, 150 three pointers, 150 blocks, and 150 steals, and became the fourth Tar Heel selected  
2 to the league's All-Defensive Team; and

3       Whereas, Marc Campbell, Ed Davis, Larry Drew II, Deon Thompson, Justin Watts,  
4 and Tyler Zeller all played very important roles throughout the season and in the NCAA  
5 tournament to help lead Carolina to its national championship, with freshman Ed Davis selected  
6 to the ACC All-Freshman Team and freshman Tyler Zeller selected to the ACC All-Academic  
7 Team; and

8       Whereas, Coach Roy Williams, a Tar Heel born and bred, as well as a direct  
9 descendant in the coaching "family tree" of Dr. Naismith, is a member of the National  
10 Basketball Hall of Fame, was named America's Best Basketball Coach by Forbes Magazine this  
11 year, became only the fourth active and 13th all-time coach to win two or more NCAA men's  
12 basketball championships, has coached teams to seven Final Fours (five in the last eight years),  
13 is third all-time and second among active coaches in NCAA Tournament victories, has a record  
14 20 consecutive years winning at least one game in the NCAA tournament, holds the record for  
15 active coaches for most consecutive NCAA tournament appearances, has led Carolina to four  
16 ACC regular season championships in the last six years, and has the highest winning  
17 percentage among active coaches; and

18       Whereas, Assistant Coaches Joe Holladay, Steve Robinson, C.B. McGrath, and  
19 Jerod Haase have helped Coach Williams lead Carolina to two National Championships in the  
20 last five years; and

21       Whereas, Inside Higher Education also did a 2009 NCAA Bracket Competition  
22 based on Academic Progress Rates and Carolina won this national championship also; and

23       Whereas, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is home to many firsts and  
24 achievements, including being established as the first public university in the nation, being the  
25 only public university to admit students in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, being acknowledged nationwide for  
26 excellence in athletics as well as academics, and being justifiably proud of a sky that is a  
27 particularly beautiful shade of blue; Now, therefore,

28 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

29       **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly declares the men's basketball team of the  
30 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill a North Carolina Institution and expresses the  
31 admiration and respect of the people of North Carolina to them for winning the 2009 National  
32 Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship.

33       **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly recognizes the perseverance, teamwork, and  
34 hard work of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill men's basketball team members:  
35 Marc Campbell, Mike Copeland, Ed Davis, Larry Drew II, Wayne Ellington, Bobby Frasor,  
36 Marcus Ginyard, Will Graves, Danny Green, Tyler Hansbrough, Ty Lawson, Patrick Moody,  
37 J.B. Tanner, Deon Thompson, Justin Watts, Jack Wooten, and Tyler Zeller; and coaches and  
38 staff: Roy Williams, Joe Holladay, Steve Robinson, C.B. McGrath, Jerod Haase, Chris Hirth,  
39 Eric Hoots, Jonas Sahratian, Molly Brenner, Bobby Cooper, Zach Lagod, Brandon Rhodes,  
40 Ryan Riedel, and Sean Stout.

41       **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit certified copies of this  
42 resolution to Head Coach Roy Williams; the team members, coaches, staff, and managers  
43 honored in this resolution; Athletic Director Dick Baddour; and Chancellor Holden Thorp on  
44 behalf of the university community.

45       **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.