

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED
RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 113—CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS ON THEIR SECOND CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 113

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers are the undisputed 2001 National Basketball Association champions and thus champions of the world;

Whereas this is the second consecutive season that the Los Angeles Lakers have won the National Basketball Association championship;

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers are one of America's preeminent sports franchises and have won their 13th NBA Championship.

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers sealed their second consecutive championship with the best playoff record in the history of the National Basketball Association, and became the first team to go through the playoffs undefeated on the road;

Whereas this exceptionally gifted team is guided by Phil Jackson, one of the most successful coaches in the history of professional basketball, who led the Lakers to victory in 23 of their last 24 games;

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers' 2001 National Basketball Association championship was characterized by a remarkable team effort, led by the series Most Valuable Player Shaquille O'Neal; and

Whereas it is appropriate and fitting to now offer these athletes and their coach the attention and accolades they have earned: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the entire 2001 Los Angeles team and its coach Phil Jackson for their remarkable achievement, and their drive, discipline, and dominance.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, last Friday, as millions of Americans and basketball fans around the world watched on television and listened on the radio, the Los Angeles Lakers defeated the Philadelphia 76ers to become the 2001 National Basketball Association champions.

This is the second consecutive year that the Lakers have won the NBA championship.

No team has ever enjoyed a post-season quite like the Lakers. They clinched the championship in five games, finishing the playoffs with a record of 15-1—the best ever. They were also the first team to go through the playoffs without losing a single game on the road.

Throughout the playoffs and championship series, one player in particular came to symbolize the Lakers' march to victory: The Big Man—Shaquille O'Neal. Because of his sterling play and leadership, Shaquille O'Neal was named Most Valuable Player for the series. O'Neal, of course, ben-

efitted from a sterling supporting cast that included Kobe Bryant, Rick Fox, Derek Fisher, Robert Horry and others.

Indeed, Mr. President, this year's championship was truly a team effort.

While the lion's share of the credit for their remarkable victory goes to the players themselves, I also want to acknowledge the outstanding coaching staff led by head coach Phil Jackson. This is Coach Jackson's eighth NBA title and his second with the Lakers.

I think it is safe to say that these Los Angeles Lakers are a basketball dynasty-in-the-making, and I am delighted to introduce this resolution acknowledging their efforts and congratulating the Lakers and their fans in California and around the world.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Los Angeles Lakers for winning the National Basketball Association championship for a second year in a row.

The Lakers overcame internal conflict and numerous injuries to go on to a remarkable season.

They put together a remarkable string of victories at the end of the season to bring home another World Championship to the City of Los Angeles, winning 23 out of 24 of their final games and going 15 and 1 in the playoffs—the best playoff record ever.

This Lakers team demonstrated what it truly means to be a champion and represents the best of what the city of Los Angeles has to offer.

Led by the inspired play of Shaquille O'Neal and the coaching of Phil Jackson, the Lakers swept through the opening three rounds of the playoffs—easily defeating the talented Portland Trailblazers, Sacramento Kings, and San Antonio Spurs.

In the final round, the Lakers faced a gritty Philadelphia 76ers team led by the incomparable Allen Iverson. Iverson and the Sixers showed tremendous determination and heart, handing an overtime defeat to the Lakers in the first game of the series.

But as the series moved on, the Lakers outmatched the Sixers and proved, once again, that they were the best team in professional basketball.

This was truly a team effort: Shaquille O'Neal, the series Most Valuable Player, dominated the Sixers on both ends of the floor, averaging 33 points per game, 15.8 rebounds, 4.8 assists, and 3.4 blocks in the final series.

With his unselfish play, Kobe Bryant provided the spark for the offense—in game four, for instance, he scored 19 points, had 10 assists, and had 9 rebounds.

Derek Fisher, Rick Fox, Robert Horry and Brian Shaw made significant contributions to the championship—each coolly made three point shots at critical points in the series.

Horace Grant and Ron Harper provided the veteran experience that helped the Lakers push back the 4th quarter surges of the Sixers.

And finally, Tyronn Lue, deserves honorable mention for his dogged defense against Allen Iverson, especially in Game 1. Without his play, the Lakers would have been unable to contain the speedy Sixer guard.

Once again let me congratulate the Los Angeles Lakers for their victory. It was a great effort by a tremendous team.

I look forward to another winning season next year.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 51—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT HISTORY BE REGARDED AS A MEANS OF UNDERSTANDING THE PAST AND SOLVING THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. LOTT) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 51

Whereas news of the end of slavery did not reach frontier areas of the Nation, especially in the southwestern United States, until long after the conclusion of the Civil War;

Whereas the African Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest thereafter celebrated June 19, known as Juneteenth Independence Day, as the anniversary of their emancipation;

Whereas those African Americans handed down that tradition from generation to generation as an inspiration and encouragement for future generations;

Whereas Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations have thus been held for 136 years to honor the memory of all those who endured slavery and especially those who moved from slavery to freedom; and

Whereas the faith and strength of character shown by those former slaves remains an example for all people of the United States, regardless of background, region, or race: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That—

(1) Congress recognizes the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day, an important date in the Nation's history, and encourages the continued celebration of that day to provide an opportunity for all people of the United States to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped the Nation; and

(2) it is the sense of Congress that—

(A) history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future;

(B) the celebration of the end of slavery is an important and enriching part of the history and heritage of the United States; and

(C) the Secretary of the Senate should transmit a copy of this concurrent resolution to the National Association of Juneteenth Lineage as an expression of appreciation for the association's role in promoting the observance of the end of slavery.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 805. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. TORRICELLI) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1, to