

Public Law 102-210  
102d Congress

Joint Resolution

Designating December 21, 1991, as "Basketball Centennial Day".

Dec. 10, 1991  
[H.J. Res. 372]

- Whereas basketball, the only major sport founded in America, was invented by Dr. James Naismith in 1891;
- Whereas the first basketball game was played by Dr. James Naismith's gymnastics class, using nine players on each side, peach baskets nailed to the wall at both ends of the gym, and a soccer ball;
- Whereas basketball was first played by women in 1893;
- Whereas basketball, the American Game, grew in popularity over the next two years throughout the United States and several foreign countries, and by the turn of the century was being played in 20 nations;
- Whereas basketball became an official Olympic sport in Berlin in 1936, and the United States defeated Canada to win the first Gold Medal;
- Whereas basketball at every level of play has been enjoyed by millions of spectators;
- Whereas our youth—the future of our Nation—have become involved in various basketball leagues that have contributed to the ideals of dedication, commitment, and teamwork; and
- Whereas basketball, the American Game, is played and enjoyed by many people in America and in the rest of the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That December 21, 1991, is designated as "Basketball Centennial Day". The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved December 10, 1991.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.J. Res. 372:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 137 (1991):  
Nov. 26, considered and passed House.  
Nov. 27, considered and passed Senate.