

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1739**

**A RESOLUTION congratulating the 1953 El Dorado Junior College basketball team on the 60th anniversary of winning the NJCAA title.**

**WHEREAS, March 28, 2013, marks the 60th anniversary of the El Dorado Junior College (now Butler County Community College) basketball team's winning of the NJCAA National Tournament; and**

**WHEREAS, This victory is only one of two times in history that two teams from the same state met in the NJCAA National Tournament championship game and the only time that two teams from Kansas have met in a collegiate national title game. The El Dorado Grizzlies defeated the Arkansas City Junior College (now Cowley County Community College) basketball team for the national title; and**

**WHEREAS, The 1953 El Dorado Junior College squad came into the season under head coach Dave Weatherby. The Ark City Tigers were coached by Dan Kahler; and**

**WHEREAS, Members of the 1953 El Dorado Junior College basketball team were Johnny Gragg, Dick Rippe, Mike Girrens, Richard Smith, Len Wilson, Jack Wichers, Pat Kinney, Gary Silor, Bill McAdoo, Ray Reep, Danny O'Brien, Bill Elliot, Fred Fuller, Jerry Evenson, Jerry Wilson, Eldon Eisenhour, Larry Maus and David Ellis; and**

**WHEREAS, Members of the 1953 Ark City Junior College basketball team were Ray Potter, Linwood Burns, Jim Reed, Lafayette Norwood, Seymour Seitchick, Jerry David, Jack King, J.C. Louderback, Reece Bohannon and Cecil Hawkins; and**

**WHEREAS, The two teams had played each other three other times during that season with Ark City winning two of those games and El Dorado winning one. The El Dorado Grizzlies defeated the Ark City Tigers 82-64 for the national title: Now, therefore,**

***Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate the 1953 El Dorado Junior College basketball team on their national title and the 1953 Ark City team on their national runner-up finish. It is great to see two teams from Kansas with such great success during a basketball season. Both Kansas teams are commended for making it to the national title game, making history for the NJCAA tournament; and**

***Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide 36 enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator King.**

**Senate Resolution No. 1739 was sponsored by Senators King, Abrams, Knox and Masterson.**

**I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body**

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*