

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 103

To congratulate the Chicago Bulls on winning the 1997 National Basketball Association Championship and proving themselves to be one of the best teams in NBA history.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25, 1997

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN (for herself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

To congratulate the Chicago Bulls on winning the 1997 National Basketball Association Championship and proving themselves to be one of the best teams in NBA history.

Whereas the Chicago Bulls at 69–13, posted the second best regular season record in the history of the National Basketball Association;

Whereas the Bulls once again roared through the playoffs, sweeping the Washington Bullets and defeating the Atlanta Hawks in 5 games, before beating the Miami Heat in 5 games to return to the NBA Finals for the second straight year;

Whereas the Bulls displayed a potent offense and stifling defense throughout the playoffs before beating the Utah

Jazz to win their second consecutive NBA championship, their fifth in the last 7 years;

Whereas head coach Phil Jackson and the entire coaching staff skillfully led the Bulls through a 69-win season and a 15–4 playoff run;

Whereas Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen were again named to the NBA’s “All-Defensive First Team”, the only 2 players from the same team to be so named, and were each voted to be among the 50 greatest players in NBA history;

Whereas Michael Jordan won his record ninth scoring title, is the sixth leading scorer in NBA history, and was named playoff most valuable player for the fifth time in 5 playoff appearances;

Whereas Scottie Pippen again exhibited his outstanding offensive and defensive versatility, proving himself to be one of the best all-around players in the NBA;

Whereas the quickness, tireless defensive effort, and athleticism of the colorful Dennis Rodman, who won his sixth straight rebounding title, keyed a strong Bulls front line;

Whereas veteran guard Ron Harper, in shutting down many of the league’s top point guards throughout the playoffs, demonstrated the defensive skills that have made him a cornerstone of the league’s best defense;

Whereas center Luc Longley frustrated many of the all-star caliber centers that he faced in this year’s playoffs while at times providing a much needed scoring lift;

Whereas Toni Kukoc, despite injury, displayed his awesome variety of offensive skills in both assisting on, and hitting, several big shots when the Bulls needed them most;

Whereas Steve Kerr, with his laser-like 3-point shooting, sparked many a Bulls rally and hit the championship winning shot in game 6 of the NBA finals;

Whereas the outstanding play of Brian Williams and Jason Caffey, and the tenacious defense of Randy Brown, each of whom came off the bench to provide valuable contributions, were an important part of each Bulls victory;

Whereas Jud Buechler and Robert Parish provided valuable contributions throughout the season and the playoffs, both on and off the court, at times giving the Bulls the emotional lift they needed; and

Whereas the regular season contributions of injured center Bill Wennington, forward Dickey Simpkins, and rookie Matt Steigenga, both on the court and in practice, again demonstrated the total devotion of Bulls personnel to the team concept that has made the Bulls one of the great sports dynasties of modern times: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the Chicago Bulls on winning the 1997 National Basketball Association championship.

