

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 286

Commending and congratulating the Los Angeles Lakers for their outstanding drive, discipline, and mastery in winning the 2002 National Basketball Association Championship.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 13, 2002

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

RESOLUTION

Commending and congratulating the Los Angeles Lakers for their outstanding drive, discipline, and mastery in winning the 2002 National Basketball Association Championship.

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers are 1 of the greatest sports franchises in history;

Whereas the Laker organization has won 14 National Basketball Association Championships;

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers are only the fifth team to win 3 consecutive National Basketball Association Championships and the seventh team to sweep the finals 4 games to none;

Whereas the Laker organization has fielded such legendary superstars as George Mikan, Wilt Chamberlain, Jerry

West, Elgin Baylor, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Earvin “Magic” Johnson, and now, Shaquille O’Neal and Kobe Bryant;

Whereas Shaquille O’Neal won his third straight National Basketball Association Finals Most Valuable Player award, joining Michael Jordan as the only player to win 3 consecutive awards;

Whereas Shaquille O’Neal scored a record 145 points in the 2002 4-game finals series;

Whereas Shaquille O’Neal’s 59.5 percent career field goal percentage in National Basketball Association Finals games is number 1 all-time and his 34.2 point scoring average ranks second;

Whereas Kobe Bryant was named to the 2001–2002 All-National Basketball Association First Team after averaging 25.5 points per game, 5.5 rebounds per game, and 5.5 assists per game during the regular season;

Whereas Kobe Bryant averaged 26.8 points, 5.8 rebounds, and 5.3 assists during the 2002 National Basketball Association Finals;

Whereas Coach Phil Jackson won his ninth National Basketball Association title, tying the record of legendary Boston Celtics coach, Red Auerbach;

Whereas Coach Phil Jackson won his 156th postseason game, surpassing former Lakers Coach Pat Riley to become the winningest playoff coach in National Basketball Association history;

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers epitomize the spirit of their hometown with their determination, heart, stamina, and amazing comeback ability;

Whereas the support of all the Los Angeles fans and the people of California propelled the Los Angeles Lakers to another National Basketball Association Championship; and

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers are poised to win a fourth straight National Basketball Association Championship next season: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Senate commends and congratulates the Los Angeles Lakers on winning the 2002 National Basketball Association Championship Title.
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