

Rutgers University to clinch the 2007 NCAA Division I women's basketball championship. But I am sure you are wondering why a Member from Illinois would rise to discuss a team from Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, it is to congratulate not only this team but one of its key players, Candace Parker. Candace grew up in the district that I represent, the 13th District of Illinois, and once again she is doing great things. I first got to know Candace when she led the Naperville Central High School Red Hawks to a State basketball title in 2003, a feat that they repeated in 2004.

During her high school years, she was honored with both the Naismith and Gatorade National Players of the Year Awards. Candace followed Marianne Jones and LeBron James as only the third high school athlete in any sport to win the Gatorade National Player of the Year in back-to-back seasons, and is the first girls' basketball player to achieve this distinction.

During her first year at Tennessee, she was forced to take a medical red shirt at Tennessee where she underwent surgery to repair her torn ACL. During her time away from basketball, Candace was continuing to make headlines, but this time in the academic area. She earned a spot on the Lady Volunteers' honor roll, and was named to the Southeastern Conference All-Academic Freshman Team. She returned to the court for the 2005-2006 season without missing a beat. She was the only player on the team to start every game and led the Lady Vols in scoring and rebounds.

While facing Army in the 2006 NCAA tournament, she became the first female to dunk in a tournament game and the first to do it twice in any game.

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That season, Candace was named the 2006 SEC Tournament MVP, the 2006 SEC Freshmen of the Year, and the 2006 SEC Rookie of the Year. Adding to her extensive list of awards this season, she was named the 2007 SEC Player of the Year.

But perhaps her greatest achievement came as she and the Lady Volunteers won the 2007 NCAA Division I women's national basketball championship.

Candace Parker is an outstanding athlete and scholar who has done so many impressive things in her short career. Again, I would like to congratulate her and her fellow Lady Volunteers for winning. All of Illinois, and especially the residents of the 13th Congressional District, are proud of Candace and wish her continued success in her endeavors.

I look forward to watching Candace and her teammates defend their title next season, perhaps against a team from Illinois.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentle-

woman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO).

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Lady Vols on winning the 2007 national women's basketball championship.

You are probably wondering why someone from West Virginia is joining in the celebration. That is because Alexis Hornbuckle, a starting guard for the Lady Vols, is a native of West Virginia, and I actually have been privileged throughout the years to watch Alexis play not only with my daughter in AAU, but also since she was an 8-year-old girl she was a phenom on the court and we knew only great things were ahead of her. She is a wonderful student. She played on a four time State championship basketball team in high school. She is from a wonderful West Virginia family, and we join today as West Virginians to say congratulations to UT and congratulations to Alexis.

I would also like to say congratulations to her coach, Pat Summitt. She is a phenomenal coach of young women, and is growing future leaders of America.

Just to show you the quality of Pat Summitt, when she recruited Alexis, when she knew she was going to UT, Pat Summitt came to Alexis' church to meet not only her parents, her friends, but also her church family.

So I say a job well done to the University of Tennessee Lady Vols, and especially to West Virginia's own, Alexis Hornbuckle.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 320 congratulating the University of Tennessee women's basketball team for winning the 2007 NCAA Division I women's basketball championship.

I am happy to join my good friend and colleague, Representative DUNCAN, in honoring this exceptional team and all of its accomplishments, and wish all involved continued success. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 320.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING BENEFITS AND IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL-BASED MUSIC EDUCATION

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 121) recognizing the benefits and importance of school-based music education, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 121

Whereas school music programs enhance intellectual development and enrich the academic environment for students of all ages;

Whereas students who participate in school music programs are less likely to be involved with drugs, gangs, or alcohol and have better attendance in school;

Whereas the skills gained through sequential music instruction, including discipline and the ability to analyze, solve problems, communicate, and work cooperatively, are vital for success in the 21st century workplace;

Whereas the majority of students attending public schools in inner city neighborhoods have virtually no access to music education, which places them at a disadvantage compared to their peers in other communities;

Whereas the arts are a core academic subject, and music is an essential element of the arts; and

Whereas every student in the United States should have an opportunity to reap the benefits of music education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that music education grounded in rigorous instruction is an important component of a well-rounded academic curriculum and should be available to every student in every school.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. CLARKE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 121, recognizing the benefits and importance of school-based music education, and for other purposes, I would like to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER), for bringing this resolution to the floor.

One of the basic reasons that every child must have an education in music is that music is a part of the fabric of our society. The intrinsic value of music for each individual is widely recognized in the many cultures that make up American life.

Music helps shape individual abilities and character. Success in society is predicated on success in school. Skills learned through the discipline of music transfer to study skills, communication skills, and the cognitive skills useful in every part of the curriculum.

Participation in music brings countless benefits to every individual throughout life. The benefits may be psychological, spiritual or physical. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution and support the next generation of music lovers.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 121, which highlights the benefits and importance of school-based music education. I would like to thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER) and the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) for their leadership on this issue and for introducing this resolution we are considering today.

Research has shown that students' involvement in their school music program is crucial to a complete education. Musical study develops critical thinking and self-discipline skills and improves a child's early cognitive development, basic math and reading abilities, self-esteem, SAT scores, ability to work in teams, spatial reasoning skills, and school attendance.

In an analysis by the U.S. Department of Education, data on more than 25,000 secondary school students, researchers found that students who report consistent high levels of involvement in instrumental music over the middle and high school years showed significantly higher levels of mathematics proficiency by grade 12 regardless of a student's socioeconomic status.

A 1999 report by the Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse found that individuals who participated in band or orchestra reported the lowest levels of current and lifelong use of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs. So it is not surprising that children involved with music education are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college and are less likely to be involved with gangs and substance abuse.

In fact, many colleges and universities view participation in the arts and music as a valuable experience that broaden students' understanding and appreciation of the world around them.

For these reasons, I support H. Con. Res. 121. The resolution states it is the sense of Congress that music education grounded in rigorous instruction is an important component of a well-rounded academic curriculum, and should be available to every student in every school.

Music education is important to our children. It can broaden and strengthen their education and improve their lives. I join my colleagues in commending music educators and organizations across the country for the key roles they play in helping our students succeed in school and throughout life.

As former President Gerald Ford said, "Music education opens the doors

that help children pass from school into the world around them, a world of work, culture, intellectual activity and human involvement. The future of our Nation depends on providing our children with a complete education that includes music."

I urge my colleagues to support House Con. Res. 121 and music education in our schools.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER), the sponsor of the resolution.

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman.

I thank my colleagues for supporting this effort to highlight the importance of music education in our schools.

A lot of folks who have had the privilege of a musical education take it for granted, but 30 million or more of our children across this country every day are being deprived of that chance to not only experience the joy of music but, as my colleagues have mentioned, the increased enhanced learning abilities that music offers, and also the ability of music to deter people from gangs and drugs and other undesirable activities.

Music education is a very important part of our education. For anyone who has seen the movie "Mr. Holland's Opus" featuring Richard Dreyfuss, that was a wonderful film demonstration of the importance of music in the lives of that particular high school. But it is true of every high school and every middle school and every elementary school across our country.

Whether it is band or orchestra, or whether it is students on their own learning the guitar or other instruments, it is a wonderful way to not only enjoy life but to enhance your skills.

Mr. Speaker, I represent Nashville, Tennessee, which is Music City U.S.A. We have some of the most talented and creative musicians on the planet, and they happen to choose to live in our wonderful city.

You can't tell it by driving down the streets, but there are some 3,000 private recording studios in the basements and attics of people's homes as they put their music and their thoughts on tape for the pleasure and enjoyment and the education of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your help in allowing this measure to be brought to the floor. It has passed the House on two previous Congresses. We are hoping that this time the Senate will also see fit to do the right thing and pass this legislation.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 121.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENETIC INFORMATION NONDISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 493) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 493

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2007".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

TITLE I—GENETIC NONDISCRIMINATION IN HEALTH INSURANCE

Sec. 101. Amendments to Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Sec. 102. Amendments to the Public Health Service Act.

Sec. 103. Amendments to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Sec. 104. Amendments to title XVIII of the Social Security Act relating to medigap.

Sec. 105. Privacy and confidentiality.

Sec. 106. Assuring coordination.

TITLE II—PROHIBITING EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF GE- NETIC INFORMATION

Sec. 201. Definitions.

Sec. 202. Employer practices.

Sec. 203. Employment agency practices.

Sec. 204. Labor organization practices.

Sec. 205. Training programs.

Sec. 206. Confidentiality of genetic information.

Sec. 207. Remedies and enforcement.

Sec. 208. Disparate impact.

Sec. 209. Construction.

Sec. 210. Medical information that is not genetic information.

Sec. 211. Regulations.

Sec. 212. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 213. Effective date.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Guarantee agency collection retention.

Sec. 302. Severability.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Deciphering the sequence of the human genome and other advances in genetics open major new opportunities for medical progress. New knowledge about the genetic basis of illness will allow for earlier detection of illnesses, often before symptoms have begun. Genetic testing can allow individuals to take steps to reduce the likelihood that they will contract a particular disorder. New knowledge about genetics may allow for the development of better therapies that are more effective against disease or have fewer side effects than current treatments. These