

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION to honor John R. Wooden for taking a stand against segregation in collegiate basketball in 1947.

RANDOLPH

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 120th General Assembly (2017)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION to honor John R. Wooden for
2 taking a stand against segregation in collegiate basketball in
3 1947.

4 *Whereas, In 1947 while coaching the Indiana State*
5 *Teacher's College Sycamores (Indiana State University) and*
6 *having a winning season, Coach Wooden turned down an*
7 *invitation to participate in the NAIB (NCAA) tournament;*

8 *Whereas, Clarence Walker, the only African-American*
9 *team member for the Sycamores would have had to stay at*
10 *home;*

11 *Whereas, Even though Walker rarely played, Wooden*
12 *wanted to take a stand against segregation in collegiate*
13 *basketball;*

14 *Whereas, In response to Wooden's decision, several other*
15 *schools began to decline the invitation in protest as well;*

16 *Whereas, In 1948 the NAIB decided to allow integrated*
17 *teams to play;*

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1 *Whereas, On March 9, 1948 when Walker went into the*
2 *game during the first round of the tournament, it was the first*
3 *time a black player competed in the tournament;*

4 *Whereas, The following year three teams brought black*
5 *players to play in the tournament; and*

6 *Whereas, In 1950 City College of New York won both the*
7 *NIT and NCAA with two black starters: Therefore,*

8 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
9 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

10 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes John R. Wooden
11 for his stand against segregation in 1947 and his contributions to
12 Hoosier basketball.

13 SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of
14 this Resolution to Indiana State University.

