

A RESOLUTION honoring a century of High School Basketball in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

WHEREAS, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) was formed in 1917 by 17 high schools desiring to organize and promulgate rules to manage a state basketball championship; and

WHEREAS, the KHSAA conducted its first state boys' basketball championship in 1918 and its first girls' basketball championship in 1920; and

WHEREAS, the KHSAA Sweet Sixteen tournaments and their history are woven into the fabric of the state and the single class tournaments rank among the finest of the state's traditions; and

WHEREAS, the KHSAA successfully collaborated with the Kentucky High School League to merge the two groups in 1958 to allow for fully integrated competition in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the KHSAA successfully re-implemented a girls' basketball state championship in 1973 and the event remains a model for the entire country; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches (KABC) was formed in 1993 to protect and promote the game of basketball and its tradition-rich legacy; and

WHEREAS, the KABC developed the Kentucky High School Basketball Hall of Fame in 2011, announcing the first portion of its inaugural class of 100 in 2012, to be announced over a six-year period culminating with the 2017 class; and

WHEREAS, the KABC Hall of Fame Building was announced in 2011 with its ultimate aim to accent the "essence of high school basketball and the life lessons it can teach" and have a permanent but dynamic display highlighting the sport, its coaches, and its participants; and

WHEREAS, the Elizabethtown Convention and Visitors' Bureau began the efforts to build a permanent building by lending its support in 2011 to begin the conversion of an 1872 church into part of the museum; and

WHEREAS, the development of the Kentucky High School Basketball Hall of Fame is supported by members of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Kentucky Broadcasters and Press Associations, Kentucky Historical Society, and many other state and local institutions; and

WHEREAS, through both the KHSAA and the KABC, the history of the sport is also the history of Kentucky, dealing with issues such as integration and women's rights; and

WHEREAS, 99 percent of Kentucky's high schools sponsor a basketball program in Kentucky's high schools with more than 11,500 student participants per year and more than 3,000 coaching positions at the high school level;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The members of this honorable body, both individually and collectively, do hereby recognize and congratulate the KHSAA and the KABC in celebrating over a century of High School Basketball and its rich tradition here in the Commonwealth and look forward to another century in the future.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Representative Rocky Adkins for presentation to the KHSAA and the KABC.