

Legislation Text

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Honoring and congratulating Jay Wright and the Villanova University Men's Basketball Team on winning the 2016 NCAA Men's National Basketball Championship on a last second, buzzer beater three- pointer to defeat the University of North Carolina (UNC) 77-74.

WHEREAS, Villanova University, a private university located in Radnor Township and nicknamed the "Wildcats", is a member of the Big East Conference and the Philadelphia Big Five; and

WHEREAS, Villanova University men's basketball has competed since the 1920-1921 season; and

WHEREAS, The Villanova Wildcats have appeared in the NCAA Tournament 36 times, the 8th highest total in NCAA history; and

WHEREAS, This year, the Villanova Wildcats had a highly successful regular season, finishing with a record of 29-5, earning them their first #1 ranking in school history and ultimately landing them the #2 seed in the NCAA March Madness Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Villanova soared through the tournament by handily defeating the University of North Carolina-Asheville, University of Iowa, University of Miami, University of Kansas and the in the National Semi-Finals, Villanova defeated the University of Oklahoma by 44 points, the largest margin of victory ever in an NCAA Final Four game; and

WHEREAS, Villanova's victory over Oklahoma landed them in the NCAA Championship game for the first time in 31 years, where they faced the #1 seeded UNC; and

WHEREAS, Villanova defeated UNC on a game-winning three-point shot at the buzzer by Kris Jenkins to win the NCAA Championship with a final score of 77-74, clinching their second NCAA Championship in 31 years; and

WHEREAS, Villanova University's only prior national championship win occurred in 1985, under head coach Rollie Massimino and led by star players Ed Pinckney and Harold Pressley, in which they defeated heavily favored Georgetown University led by Patrick Ewing, in what is considered one of the greatest upsets in NCAA basketball history; and

WHEREAS, Coach Jay Wright was named the 2016 Naismith Coach of the Year and senior Ryan Arcidiacono was named Final Four Most Outstanding Player; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Council of the City of Philadelphia hereby honors and congratulates Jay Wright and the Villanova University Men's Basketball Team on winning the 2016 NCAA Men's National Basketball Championship on a last second, buzzer beater three- pointer to defeat the University of North Carolina (UNC) 77-74.

