**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR TEMETRIUS JAMEL “JA” MORANT FOR HIS OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE BASKETBALL CAREER WITH MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is proud to recognize Temetrius Jamel “Ja” Morant for his outstanding career as a point guard for Murray State University; and

Whereas, a native of Dalzell, South Carolina, Temetrius Jamel “Ja” Morant was born on August 10, 1999 to Jamie Morant and Tee Morant. In his youth, Morant trained in his backyard with his father and played in the Amateur Athletic Union circuit with the South Carolina Hornets, a small but talented grassroots team based out of Columbia; and

Whereas, Morant attended Crestwood High School, where he became the school’s all‑time leading scorer with 1,679 points. In his final two seasons as a Knight, he averaged 27 points, 8 rebounds, and 8 assists per game, earning South Carolina Class 3A All‑State honors both years. He was also a three-time All‑Region Most Valuable Player; and

Whereas, in his collegiate career, Morant made an immediate impact with Murray State, earning first‑team All‑Ohio Valley Conference honors as a freshman. He had a breakout sophomore season with the Racers, which saw him win Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Year, receive consensus All-American accolades, win the Lute Olson Award, and become a John R. Wooden Award finalist, Naismith Trophy finalist, and the first player in NCAA history to average at least 20 points and 10 assists per game in a single season. He finished the season with 331 assists, the sixth-most in NCAA single-season history and a Murray State record, and an average of 24.6 points, 10.0 assists, 5.5 rebounds, and 1.8 steals per game; and

Whereas, Morant became Murray State’s all-time assists leader and the Racers’ single-season scoring leader on the way to leading his team to two Ohio Valley Conference championships and two NCAA tournament berths; and

Whereas, in this year’s NCAA tournament, Morant logged 16 assists in one game, tying the second‑highest single‑game mark in NCAA tournament history; and

Whereas, Morant’s elite passing ability and dynamic, explosive scoring ability enable him to consistently break down opposing defenses. Furthermore, he studies his own teammates constantly in order to grow in his ability to assist and to elevate their individual games; and

Whereas, Morant is universally projected as a top prospect and lottery pick in the 2019 NBA Draft; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the pride and recognition that Temetrius Jamel “Ja” Morant has brought to the State of South Carolina and look forward to a future filled with further accomplishments by this talented young man in his professional career and beyond. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Temetrius Jamel “Ja” Morant for his outstanding collegiate basketball career with Murray State University.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Temetrius Jamel “Ja” Morant.

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