

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the Calloway County High School Lakers, the 2025  
2 Kentucky 2A Boys' State Basketball Tournament champions.

3 WHEREAS, on January 19, 2025, at the Owensboro Sportscenter, the Calloway  
4 County High School Lakers defeated the Black Bears of Harlan County High School by a  
5 score of 80 to 75 to capture the 2025 Kentucky 2A Boys' State Basketball Championship;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the championship game was close until the end, as the lead changed  
8 eight times and neither team led by double figures; and

9 WHEREAS, early in the second half the Lakers trailed by nine points, before  
10 completing a 17-8 run to take a 48 to 46 lead late in the third quarter. Leading 69 to 60 in  
11 the fourth quarter, the Lakers withstood the Black Bears' late push by making free throws  
12 to seal the game; and

13 WHEREAS, the 2A State Championship is the first in school history for Calloway  
14 County. The win was keyed by the tournament's Most Valuable Player Jonah Butler's  
15 team-high 36 points in the championship game and a 2A State Tournament record 84  
16 points throughout the competition; and

17 WHEREAS, Jonah Butler's father, Greg Butler, an assistant principal at Calloway  
18 County, handed his son the MVP trophy after the game; and

19 WHEREAS, senior Eli Finley added 34 points for the Lakers, and sophomore Luke  
20 Armstrong contributed 10 rebounds; and

21 WHEREAS, Butler, Finley, and Armstrong were joined by seniors Stephen Lane  
22 and Cole Lockhart on the All-Tournament Team; and

23 WHEREAS, after the victory, Calloway County head coach Brad Cleaver said, "I  
24 am so proud of my kids. They've been together for eight, nine years, playing together.  
25 This just puts a ribbon on all of our hard work. They deserve this. They worked hard for  
26 this, and I'm very, very proud of them"; and

27 WHEREAS, the victory in the 2A State Championship game is a highlight in an

1 ongoing, brilliant season for the Lakers, who have so far won 31 games and lost three;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the Lakers qualified for the upcoming 2025 Kentucky High School  
4 Athletic Association Sweet 16 at Rupp Arena by winning the Fourth District  
5 Championship on February 27, and the First Region Championship on March 9, defeating  
6 Marshall County High School in both games; and

7 WHEREAS, other members of the Calloway County team include: senior Conner  
8 Lockhart; junior Jackson Ames; sophomores Matthew Briedwell, Trent Jones, Will  
9 Lanier, Jake Ringstaff, and Peyton Weatherford; and freshman Colton Tennyson; and

10 WHEREAS, Calloway County head coach Brad Cleaver's staff includes assistants  
11 Jackson Chapman, Andrew Clinton, Jennifer Finley, Bruce Lane, and Brenden Thomas;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the talent, dedication, and resilience of the Calloway County Lakers  
14 has resulted in these young men penning their names forever in the annals of Kentucky  
15 high school basketball history, and it is fitting and proper that they be publicly  
16 recognized;

17 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

20 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate join Senator Jason Howell in  
21 congratulating the Calloway County Lakers and Coach Brad Cleaver on winning the  
22 2025 Kentucky 2A Boys' State Basketball Championship, applauding their stellar play,  
23 and wishing the team and coaches good fortune in the rest of their season and in all future  
24 endeavors.

25 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to  
26 Senator Jason Howell for presentation to the team.