SENA TE 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
SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

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

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

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

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

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

Whereas, In 1948 the NAIB decided to allow integrated teams to play;
Whereas, On March 9, 1948 when Walker went into the game during the first round of the tournament, it was the first time a black player competed in the tournament;

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

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

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

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

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