

## 2009-K402

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Siena College Men's Basketball Team upon the occasion of capturing the 2009 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championship

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, On Monday, March 9, 2009, the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team achieved unparalleled excellence for the second year in a row by capturing their second consecutive Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Basketball Championship; and

WHEREAS, Using a super second half to defeat Niagara 77-70 in front of 9,744 fans in downtown Albany, the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team became one of the College's best teams ever; this win is the first time that Siena has won back-to-back MAAC Tournament titles in school history; and

WHEREAS, The 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team earned their second straight invitation to the prestigious NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament; this is Siena's fifth trip to the NCAA Tournament; and

WHEREAS, The MAAC Championship win against Niagara gave Siena their 21st consecutive victory at home; it ties Siena for the third longest home winning streak in the country; and

WHEREAS, The inspired play of the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team built an unprecedented loyal following of students, faculty, staff, alumni and local community support; and

WHEREAS, The 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team was marked by both inspired team play and individual excellence, epitomized by the selection of senior co-captain Kenny Hasbrouck as the Tournament's Most

Valuable Player, and by the selection of junior point guard Ronald Moore and junior Alex Franklin to the All-Tournament team, along with Hasbrouck; and

WHEREAS, The athletic talent displayed by this team is due in great part to the efforts of Head Coach Fran McCaffery and his talented team of assistant coaches, skilled and inspirational tutors, respected for their ability to develop potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, Athletically and academically, the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team members have proven themselves to be an unbeatable combination of talents, reflecting favorably on their school; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Fran McCaffery and his team of assistant coaches have done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team members toward their goals; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Head Coach Fran McCaffery and his assistant coaches, and the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team's outstanding athletes have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team, its members, and Head Coach Fran McCaffery and his assistant coaches on their outstanding season, overall team record, capturing the 2009 Metro

Atlantic Athletic Conference Championship, and their NCAA Tournament participation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the 2008-2009 Siena College Men's Basketball Team, and to Head Coach Fran McCaffery and his assistant coaches.