

## 2015-J4361

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the 2015-2016 University at Buffalo Men's Basketball Team upon the occasion of capturing the Mid-American Conference Championship, and advancing to the NCAA Men's Basketball National Tournament

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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the 2015-2016 University at Buffalo Men's Basketball Team upon the occasion of capturing the Mid-American Conference Championship on Saturday, March 12, 2016, and advancing to the NCAA Men's Basketball National Tournament; and

WHEREAS, The University at Buffalo Bulls have achieved their second consecutive NCAA Tournament in school history with a thrilling last second three point shot to earn a 64-61 victory over Akron in the Mid-American Conference Championship Game; and

WHEREAS, With this victory, the Buffalo Bulls have become the first Western New York team to enter the NCAA Tournament in back-to-back years since 1957; they are also only the second Big 4 school to ever send both its men's and women's teams to the Big Dance in the same year; and

WHEREAS, The Bulls will now face Miami University as the 14th seed in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament on March 17, 2016; and

WHEREAS, The athletic talent displayed by this team is due in great

part to the efforts of first year coach, Nate Oats, and his staff, skilled and inspirational tutors respected for their ability to turn potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, The 2015-2016 University at Buffalo Men's Basketball Team members have proven themselves to be an outstanding collection of talents, reflecting favorably on their school; and

WHEREAS, Coach Nate Oats has done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the team members toward their goals; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Coach Nate Oats and all of the 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 members of the University at Buffalo Men's Basketball Team and Coach Nate Oats upon the occasion of capturing the Mid-American Conference Championship, and advancing to the NCAA Men's Basketball National Tournament; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the University at Buffalo Men's Basketball Team and Coach Nate Oats.