

2009 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 697

Commending Tony Squire and Squires Boys Basketball Education, Inc., on the occasion of the program's 20th anniversary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 16, 2009

Agreed to by the Senate, January 22, 2009

WHEREAS, in 2008 Squires Boys Basketball Education, Inc., founded by Tony Squire, celebrated 20 years of providing exciting and competitive basketball, support of young people and a fine basketball program comprised of talented players across Virginia and neighboring states; and

WHEREAS, Tony Squire established Squires Boys Basketball Education, Inc., of the Amateur Athletic Union, with its first season in 1988, from very meager beginnings and against tremendous odds; and

WHEREAS, Tony Squire founded the first boys Amateur Athletic Union in the City of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Tony Squire has given hundreds of young men, many whom would not have been able to continue playing competitive basketball after high school, a tremendous opportunity to compete and showcase their talents and possibly capture the attention of colleges, universities and the National Basketball Association (NBA); and

WHEREAS, several former Squires players are prominent NBA stars with worldwide recognition, including Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett of the Boston Celtics, who also played on the United States 2000 Gold Medal Olympics Team, and Amare Stoudemire of the Phoenix Suns; and

WHEREAS, former Squires players that are now stars in the National Football League are Darren Sharper of the Minnesota Vikings and Jonathan Lewis of the Jacksonville Jaguars; Jamie Sharper is retired from the Seattle Seahawks; and

WHEREAS, for 20 years, Tony Squire's enthusiasm and love for basketball has been surpassed only by his great desire to aid and mentor his players so that they may mature, grow in stature and knowledge, and realize their dreams; and

WHEREAS, being a Squire is more than possessing athletic skill—the program's motto is "A Degree for Free" and Tony Squire's philosophy emphasizes that players "must dedicate their lives to relentless skill development on and off the court, get the best education possible through hard work and be a steward of their life endeavors"; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of Squires Boys Basketball Education, Inc., over 300 players have received college scholarships; and

WHEREAS, throughout the program's existence, Squires teams have been successful because of the continued support and generosity of individual, community and national sponsors, big and small; the encouragement and sacrifice of the players' families and friends; and the hard work and commitment of the coaches and players; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Tony Squire and Squires Boys Basketball Education, Inc., on the occasion of the program's 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tony Squire as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for his many efforts to aid young Virginians, foster good citizenship and promote amateur basketball in the Commonwealth.

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