

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1827

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Lynette Woodard.

WHEREAS, Lynette Woodard, a Wichita native, enjoyed a phenomenal basketball career at the scholastic, collegiate, professional, and international level. Widely considered one of the greatest female players of all time, her magnetic personality and warm smile could not hide her intense desire to outdo her opponent and win basketball games; and

WHEREAS, Woodard graduated from Wichita North High School in 1977, where she led her team to state championships in 1975 and 1977, and was selected as a National All-American in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Woodard continued to dominate the women's game at the University of Kansas, where she led the nation in scoring in 1979, rebounding in 1978, and steals in 1979, 1980 and 1981. She was a four-time Big 8 selection, MVP of the Big 8 Tournament in 1979, 1980 and 1981, and was later named Conference Player of the Decade for the 1980s. Woodard scored in double figures in 138 of 139 career games, and completed her college career ranking first in eight statistical categories at Kansas including points, rebounds and steals. Woodard received the Wade Trophy as the nation's top female basketball player in 1981 and the Broderick Award as the nation's top female athlete in 1982. Woodard ended her collegiate career as a four-time All-American and the leading scorer in the history of women's basketball with 3,649 points, a 26.2 point per game average; and

WHEREAS, After her playing days as a Jayhawk were over, Woodard excelled as a professional player both internationally and in the United States. While playing in the Italian Professional League, she led the league in scoring in 1982 and took her team to an Italian League Championship in 1989. Twice a member of the United States Olympic team, Woodard was a captain of the 1984 squad which captured the gold medal in Los Angeles. In 1997, Woodard came out of retirement as an elite draft selection to play two seasons with the WNBA's Cleveland Rockers and Detroit Shock; and

WHEREAS, Woodard paved the way for countless other female athletes and made history by becoming the first woman to receive the NCAA's Top Five Award in 1982, and by joining the world-famous Harlem Globetrotters in 1985 as the first female team member; and

WHEREAS, In September 2004, Woodard was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts; and in June 2005, she was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tennessee: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Lynette Woodard for her long and distinguished career in women's basketball; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Betts for presentation to Lynette Woodard.

Senate Resolution No. 1827 was sponsored by Senator Donald Betts, Jr.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*