

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1753

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Washburn alumni Michael Wilhoite and Cary Williams for competing in the 2013 Super Bowl, and the leadership of Washburn Head Football Coach Craig Schurig.

WHEREAS, Michael Wilhoite, of Topeka, Kansas, where he attended Highland Park High School, earned All-MIAA honors as a senior linebacker at Washburn University after recording 81 tackles in one season. He finished his Washburn career with over 200 total tackles, which ranked him high in the Washburn record book. He finished his career at Washburn with 109 solo stops. Following his Washburn career, Michael signed with the Omaha Nighthawks, a professional team in the UFL (United Football League). Through his talent, character and work ethic, he was then signed by the San Francisco 49ers and was eventually selected to be a team captain; and

WHEREAS, Cary Williams came to Washburn University (WU) in 2006. He was named to the AP Little All-American Team as well as the Daktronics All-American team his senior season. Williams was named unanimous first team All-MIAA at defensive back after recording seven INTs. He also ranked fifth in NCAA Division II in interceptions per game as a senior. His seven INTs are the second most in WU single-season history. He returned two kickoffs for TDs which tied a WU single-season record and is a WU career record as well. His 100-yard kickoff return is tied for the longest return in school history. He finished his career with 94 tackles including 67 solo stops with 11 interceptions. He was then drafted by the Tennessee Titans, before he was eventually signed by the Baltimore Ravens where he has recorded close to 200 tackles and 4 interceptions; and

WHEREAS, It is very rare for two individuals who were teammates at a Kansas Division II school to be signed to an NFL team. Both of these young men had the goal of playing in the NFL, and both of them achieved this goal. Further, it is even more unheard of for two Division II teammates to play against each other in a Super Bowl. This occurred on February 3, 2013, when the San Francisco 49ers played against the Baltimore Ravens in the Super Bowl; and

WHEREAS, Much of the success of the Washburn University football program can be attributed to the leadership of Head Coach Craig Schurig. In ten seasons as the Ichabods' head coach, Craig Schurig has built one of the most respected programs in the MIAA with three NCAA playoff appearances and the 2005 MIAA title coming on the heels of 2007, 2009 and 2011 runner-up finishes in the conference race. He has completed a 72-44 record at Washburn. He is the all-time winningest coach at Washburn, with 9 consecutive winning seasons (after Washburn had only one winning season in the 15 seasons before he arrived). He has coached 171 MIAA Academic Honor Roll members, 133 All-MIAA players, 18 All-Americans, 5 NFL players, 3 Academic All-Americans and 2 NFL draft picks: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Washburn Alum and Baltimore Ravens cornerback Cary Williams, Washburn Alum and San Francisco 49ers linebacker Michael Wilhoite and Washburn Head Coach Craig Schurig for their success and representation of Washburn and our state on a national level, and wish them much more success in future endeavors. We also thank them for serving as role models to our Kansas youth; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Love.

Senate Resolution No. 1753 was sponsored by Senators Love, Hensley, Kelly and V. Schmidt.

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

---

---

*President of the Senate.*

---

*Secretary of the Senate.*