

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE

4 RESOLUTION 72

By: Sparks, Nichols and Coffee

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution congratulating Blake Griffin for his
8 many accomplishments and awards; commending the 2008-
9 2009 University of Oklahoma men's basketball team;
10 and directing distribution.

11 WHEREAS, the 2008-2009 University of Oklahoma men's basketball
12 team, led by 6-foot 10-inch, 251-pound Sophomore Blake Griffin,
13 proved to be a memorable team, one that earned its place in the
14 record book for both its star player and for the entire Sooner
15 squad; and

16 WHEREAS, Blake Griffin was named the consensus National Player
17 of the Year; became the University of Oklahoma's first recipient of
18 the prestigious Naismith Trophy and John R. Wooden Award; was named
19 Big 12 Player of the Year; averaged 22.7 points, 14.4 rebounds, 2.3
20 assists, 1.2 blocks, and 1.1 steals per game; led the Big 12 with
21 his scoring average, and had the highest scoring average at OU in 14
22 years; set the school and Big 12 record with his scoring average,
23 the highest by any Division I player since Tim Duncan in 1996-1997;

1 and led all Big 12 players taller than 6 feet 5 inches with his
2 average assists; and

3 WHEREAS, Blake Griffin set the University of Oklahoma and Big 12
4 records with his .654 field goal percentage, which was ranked second
5 in the nation; 30 double-doubles, leading the nation as well; 324
6 free-throw attempts; most 20-point, 15-rebound games in a season
7 with 14 (previous record was seven). Blake Griffin tied a Big 12
8 record by winning six League Player of the Week awards; and

9 WHEREAS, Blake Griffin's 504 rebounds were the most in a season
10 by a Division I player since Larry Bird's 505 in 1978-1979. He
11 averaged 28.5 points, 15 rebounds, and 2.3 assists in four NCAA
12 tournament games while shooting .780 from the field. Blake Griffin
13 ranks 17th at the University of Oklahoma in career scoring with
14 1,278 points, despite playing just two seasons; and

15 WHEREAS, the 2008-2009 University of Oklahoma men's basketball
16 team finished their season with a 30-6 record for the fifth 30-win
17 season in school history. It recorded a winning percentage of .833,
18 tying the program's fifth best in the last 80 years. The Sooners
19 advanced to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament for the seventh
20 time in history. It finished with a Number Seven national ranking
21 in both the AP and ESPN/USA Today Top-25 polls; and

22 WHEREAS, the 2008-2009 University of Oklahoma men's basketball
23 team achieved the program's highest national ranking in 19 years at
24 Number Two in February of this year. It won 13 games in Big 12

1 Conference play, tying an OU record. The Sooners ranked Number Two
2 in the nation with a .492 field goal percentage and Number 14 by
3 averaging 78.7 points per game. They held opposing teams to a
4 combined .398 field goal mark, the program's lowest opponent figure
5 in 48 years.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
7 OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

8 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates University of
9 Oklahoma basketball player Blake Griffin for his many athletic
10 accomplishments and awards and wishes him the best in pursuing his
11 professional career.

12 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the 2008-2009 University
13 of Oklahoma Sooners men's basketball team for their outstanding
14 season with record-breaking play.

15 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to University of
16 Oklahoma President David L. Boren, University of Oklahoma Athletic
17 Director Joe Castiglione, University of Oklahoma Men's Basketball
18 Head Coach Jeff Capel, and Sooner basketball star Blake Griffin.

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