

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH ED COOLEY ON BEING NAMED THE BIG EAST CONFERENCE MEN'S BASKETBALL 2021-2022 COACH OF THE YEAR

Introduced By: Senators Algieri, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Felag, F Lombardi, Pearson, and Picard

Date Introduced: March 10, 2022

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Ed Cooley, the highly regarded head coach of the Providence College Friars  
2 Men's Basketball Team has become the school's first winner of the Big East Coach of the Year  
3 Award in the illustrious history of the Big East Conference, which began in 1979. This  
4 achievement becomes even more impressive when one considers that both Joe Mullaney and Rick  
5 Pitino, two of the greatest coaches in college basketball history, coached Providence College  
6 during the Big East era; and

7 WHEREAS, Coach Cooley has been the Friars Head Coach for the past eleven seasons,  
8 since 2011, and has compiled an outstanding 611 winning percentage and more than 200 wins  
9 thus far in his tenure at Providence College. He has taken Providence College to five NCAA  
10 Basketball Tournaments and two NIT Invitations in his sterling career with another NCAA berth  
11 a guarantee for the 2022 Tournament; and

12 WHEREAS, Coach Cooley's squad was picked to finish in seventh place in the pre-  
13 season poll. Instead, the Friars took the conference and the nation by surprise, compiling an  
14 outstanding 24-4 overall record thus far, a superb 14-3 regular season conference record, and  
15 winning the Friars 1st ever Big East Conference Men's Basketball regular season championship,  
16 and attaining the 1st seed in the Big East Conference Tournament at Madison Square Garden; and

17 WHEREAS, Coach Cooley always gets the most out of his teams and seems to have a  
18 knack for coming up big in close games. In the current season, his squad has an incredible 11-2  
19 record in games decided by two possessions or less, or in overtime. Thanks to his tremendous

1 leadership and outstanding coaching, Providence College is currently ranked 10th in the nation in  
2 the national Coaches Poll, and 11th in the country in the National AP Poll. At one point this  
3 season, the Friars reached a high of 8th in the national polls. For his myriad accomplishments,  
4 Coach Cooley was recognized by the Sporting News as its National Men's College Basketball  
5 Coach of the Year for the 2021-2022 Season; now, therefore be it

6           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby congratulates  
7 Providence College Men's Basketball Head Coach Ed Cooley on being named the Big East  
8 Conference Men's Basketball Coach of the Year and moreover wishes him and his team the best  
9 of luck in the 2022 Big East Conference Basketball Tournament at Madison Square Garden; and  
10 be it further

11           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Providence College Men's Basketball Coach  
13 Ed Cooley.

=====  
LC005488  
=====