

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200093D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 638

Offered May 13, 2024

Prefiled May 13, 2024

4 Commending Dawn Michelle Staley.

1 Patrons—Callsen, Anthony, Askew, Bennett-Parker, Clark, Cohen, Cousins, Feggans, Gardner, Glass,
2 Hayes, Henson, Hernandez, Jones, Keys-Gamarra, Krizek, Laufer, LeVere Bolling, Lopez,
3 Maldonado, Martinez, McClure, McQuinn, Mundon King, Price, Reaser, Sewell, Shin, Simonds,
4 Sullivan, Thomas, Tran and Willett

6 WHEREAS, Dawn Michelle Staley, a former member of the University of Virginia women's
7 basketball team, has established herself as both one of the greatest players and coaches in the history of
8 women's basketball; and

10 WHEREAS, finishing her high school career as the *USA Today* National Player of the Year, Dawn
11 Staley would go on to be named the Naismith College Player of the Year two times as a University of
12 Virginia Cavalier; and

13 WHEREAS, Dawn Staley continued to reach great heights in both her professional and international
14 playing careers, being named a Women's National Basketball Association all-star six times and winning
15 three Olympic gold medals; and

16 WHEREAS, Dawn Staley embarked upon her illustrious career as a coach with the Temple
17 University women's basketball team, leading the Owls to six National Collegiate Athletic Association
18 (NCAA) tournaments and four Atlantic 10 Conference tournament titles; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2008, Dawn Staley was named head coach of the University of South Carolina
20 women's basketball team, where she has since built the program from the ground up into one of the
21 most formidable squads in the nation; and

22 WHEREAS, under Dawn Staley's leadership, the University of South Carolina Gamecocks have won
23 eight Southeastern Conference (SEC) regular-season titles and eight SEC tournament titles, placing her
24 second all-time in the league's record books; and

25 WHEREAS, Dawn Staley's Gamecocks have won an incredible three NCAA national championships
26 in the past eight years, including two of the last three, while reaching the Final Four six times over the
27 last nine tournaments; and

28 WHEREAS, in recognition of her accomplishments, Dawn Staley was named head coach of the
29 United States national women's basketball team in 2017, and she led the team to a gold medal at the
30 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2020; and

31 WHEREAS, Dawn Staley has been a trailblazer of her sport, becoming both the first Black head
32 coach of the United States national women's basketball team and the first Black head coach to win
33 multiple NCAA basketball national championships; and

34 WHEREAS, Dawn Staley holds the unique distinction of being the first person to be named both the
35 Naismith College Player of the Year and the Naismith College Coach of the Year, an honor she
36 received for a record fourth time in 2024 after her team won the NCAA national championship and
37 finished the season with a perfect 38-0 record; now, therefore, be it

38 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Dawn Michelle Staley hereby be commended for her
39 unparalleled achievements in the sport of basketball; and, be it

40 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
41 for presentation to Dawn Michelle Staley as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her
42 triumphs and best wishes for her continued success.

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HR638