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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**CONGRATULATING PROVIDENCE NATIVE ED COOLEY ON BEING NAMED THE
NEW HEAD COACH OF THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE FRIARS MEN'S BASKETBALL
TEAM**

Introduced By: Representatives Hull, Williams, Flaherty, McCauley, and Tarro

Date Introduced: March 24, 2011

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Ed Cooley, a Providence native and a man from humble beginnings who has
2 overcome many obstacles in life, has been named the head coach of the storied Providence
3 College Men's Basketball Team; and

4 WHEREAS, Ed Cooley graduated from Central High School in Providence and was a
5 key component of a legendary and dominant high school team that won back-to-back State Titles.
6 He garnered two straight all-state selections and was twice chosen the Rhode Island High School
7 Basketball Player of the Year. It was apparent to all who witnessed him at Central High School
8 that Ed was an inspirational leader who was on his way to accomplishing big things in life; and

9 WHEREAS, Ed went on to play basketball at Stonehill College from 1990-1994. Ed was
10 a three-year team Captain and captured Northeast-10 Academic Honor Roll accolades. After
11 graduating from Stonehill College, he went to the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth to
12 begin his distinguished coaching career. While at UMass-Dartmouth, he helped to lead the team
13 to a 25-4 record and a number three national ranking. He also served as an Assistant Coach at
14 Stonehill College, served ten years as an Assistant Coach under Al Skinner, with one year at the
15 University of Rhode Island and nine years at Boston College. At Boston College, Cooley helped
16 lead the team to a 175-108 record, five NCAA Tournament berths, five twenty win seasons, and
17 the capturing of the 2000-2001 Big East Championship; and

18 WHEREAS, In 2006, Ed Cooley became the head coach of the Fairfield Stags. In his
19 tenure, he has compiled an outstanding 92-69 overall record and a sterling 58-33 record in

1 conference play. Cooley led Fairfield to its first post-season win in more than thirty years, and his
2 23 wins in 2009-2010 were the second highest in school history. For his outstanding coaching
3 performance he was selected to be the first recipient of the Ben Jobe Award, presented annually
4 to the top minority men's basketball coach in the nation; and

5 WHEREAS, Ed now becomes the head coach of one of the most storied basketball
6 programs in the nation. He will lead a program that has won two NIT Championships, has made
7 it to two NCAA Final Fours, and that plays in arguably the toughest basketball conference in
8 college basketball. We are confident that Ed Cooley is the man to return Friars basketball to
9 glory. His leadership skills, his devotion to doing things the right way, and the discipline with
10 which he lives his life and expects of his players and all those around him, will surely lead to
11 success for his players on the court and in life. We wish him much success and welcome him
12 back to Rhode Island along with his wife, Nurys, daughter, Olivia, and son, Isaiah; now, therefore
13 be it

14 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
15 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates Providence native Ed Cooley on being named the
16 Head Coach of the Providence College Friars Men's Basketball Team; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
18 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Ed Cooley.

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