

House Resolution 1766

By: Representatives Thomas of the 39th, McClain of the 100th, Bentley of the 139th, Dreyer of the 59th, and Sharper of the 177th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Shaquille Rashaun O'Neal; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Shaquille "Shaq" Rashaun O'Neal has an established reputation as one of the
3 most well-known and dominant players in NBA history; and
- 4 WHEREAS, born on March 6, 1972, in Newark, New Jersey, Shaq graduated from Cole
5 High School in San Antonio, Texas, and enrolled at Louisiana State University where he was
6 named College Player of the Year in 1991 and was twice named a unanimous first team
7 All-American; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he dropped out of college in 1992 in order to pursue a career in the NBA, and
9 during his rookie season with the Orlando Magic, he became the first player in NBA history
10 to be named Player of the Week within his first week in the league and finished the season
11 in the top 10 in scoring, rebounding, blocks, and shooting percentage; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in 1996, Shaq signed the biggest contract in NBA history, being seven years for
13 \$120 million with the Los Angeles Lakers, and that same year he helped the United States'
14 Dream Team to win gold at the Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, thus securing his place
15 in history as an NBA legend; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Shaq was a three-time member of the All-NBA Third Team, a two-time
17 member of the All-NBA Second Team, an eight-time member of the All-NBA First Team,
18 and in 2000 the NBA's Most Valuable Player; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Shaq retired in 2011 to become an on-screen NBA analyst for Turner Network
20 Television, working alongside other NBA legends, Charles Barkley, Ernie Johnson, and
21 Kenny Smith, on *Inside the NBA*; and

22 WHEREAS, he has since spent his time off court reinventing himself as a musician and
23 actor, appearing in several film and television roles, releasing various albums, and
24 establishing himself as a gold-certified rap artist; and

25 WHEREAS, Shaq has also dedicated a great deal of his time to advancing his education and
26 has earned a master's degree in business administration and a doctorate degree in education
27 from Barry University in Florida; and

28 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
29 exemplary athlete, actor, and musician be recognized.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body recognize and commend Shaquille Rashaun O'Neal.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
34 Shaquille Rashaun O'Neal.