



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 68920, **Version:** 1

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### **Fiscal Note**

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### **Title**

Honoring the University of Wisconsin Women's Volleyball Team on winning the NCAA National Championship.

### **Body**

WHEREAS, the UW Women's Volleyball team won the Division 1 NCAA National Championship for the first time in program history; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1974, the team has previously played in 3 NCAA National Championship finals in 2000, 2013 & 2019 losing in the finals to Nebraska, Penn State & Stanford, respectively; and

WHEREAS, this team included super seniors Dana Rettke, Sydney Hilley, Grace Loberg, Lauren Barnes and Giorgia Civita returning for a fifth year of eligibility because of COVID-19 for a chance to battle for the NCAA National Championship; and

WHEREAS, they were joined by Jade Demps, Anna Smrek, Julia Orzol, Devyn Robinson and Izzy Ashburn in making that dream come true when they knocked off unbeaten Louisville in five sets in the semi-finals on Thursday, December 16, 2021 and returned Saturday, December 18, 2021 to beat Nebraska in five sets which ran three hours and 14 minutes; and

WHEREAS, individual team members earned amazing honors such as Dane Rettke the 2021 National Player of the Year and the program's first five-time First Team All-American, and Sydney Hilley honored as a two-time First Team All-American, and Anna Smrek named the tournament Most Outstanding Player; and

WHEREAS, the team was led by Head Coach Kelly Sheffield and assistant coaches Brittany Dildine and Gary White and additional team support staff athletic trainer Kristen Walker and strength & conditioning coach Kevin Schultz; and

WHEREAS, Coach Sheffield acknowledged that this team stands on the shoulders of the alums that have come before them; and

WHEREAS, the team has embraced their fans, the thousands who traveled to Columbus, Ohio to cheer them on including 8 year-old Izzie Eaton a young girl 'adopted' by the team after they helped celebrate her 6<sup>th</sup> birthday; and

WHEREAS, the team has some of the strongest support in college volleyball with screens at Union South, restaurants, local taverns and thousands of living rooms around the state tuned into the games this weekend, bringing Wisconsinites together to celebrate a deserving team; and

WHEREAS, thousands turned out for a welcome home celebration at the UW Field House after a parade of fire trucks lead the team to the event; and

WHEREAS, the entire Madison community joins together in showing their admiration, appreciation and even adoration for this team of strong women who have overcome adversities over the years of their college careers to emerge as National Champions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway and the Common Council are included with their thousands of fans in congratulating this team on their amazing accomplishment.