

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING A WNBA FRANCHISE TO BOSTON

WHEREAS, Massachusetts is considered the birthplace of basketball, which reportedly began in 1892 as the brainchild of James Naismith in Springfield, which is now home to the Basketball Hall of Fame; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston is home to the Boston Celtics, a franchise that has reached unparalleled success in the NBA, winning 18 world championships, tied for the most titles of any professional sports organization in North America since its founding in the 1946-47 season; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston's influence on basketball ranges from Alfreda Harris, a longtime basketball coach and mentor in the city who won the Mannie Jackson Award from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, to Medina Dixon, a Mattapan native who won an NCAA title at Old Dominion University in 1985 and a U.S. Olympic Bronze Medal in 1992, and now to Taina Mair, a Dorchester native who starred at Boston College and now leads Duke University; *and*

WHEREAS, Massachusetts has been home to multiple high school players, including Rebecca Lobo and Aliyah Boston, who went on to become Naismith College Players of the Year in the NAAs and All-Stars in the WNBA, and college players, including Maura Healey, who starred at Harvard University before becoming governor of Massachusetts; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston will not be one of the cities where the WNBA expands later this decade, bypassed for cities such as Detroit, Cleveland, and Philadelphia; *and*

WHEREAS, The Connecticut Sun were reportedly placed for sale earlier this year, leading to rumors they could relocate to Boston; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston reportedly has multiple ownership groups willing to purchase a WNBA team; *and*

WHEREAS, For the second consecutive season, Boston will host a Connecticut Sun game at TD Garden, selling out the arena two years in a row; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston's rich basketball history and present interest in the sport, both men's and women's, makes them an ideal destination for a WNBA franchise to be located;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council fully endorses any potential relocation of a WNBA franchise to Boston, where the city currently has enough existing facilities to host WNBA games, and has a fanbase that will welcome the team with open arms.

Filed on: July 7, 2025