**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE PICKENS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2013 CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE, AND TO APPLAUD COACH JENNIFER GRAVELY, HER STAFF, AND THE PLAYERS ON A STELLAR SEASON.

Whereas, after months of preparation, the Pickens High School girls volleyball team proved itself determined to get back to the big stage. The Lady Blue Flame, which fell to North Myrtle Beach a year ago at the State title playoffs, recovered the championship trophy they last took home in 2008 on November 9, 2013, playing in a rematch against defending State champion North Myrtle Beach; and

Whereas, this sweet victory added a fourteenth state volleyball title to Pickens’ long list, causing exultant Blue Flame fans to speculate on the possible necessity of purchasing a new trophy case to hold all the team’s awards; and

Whereas, sweeping past North Myrtle Beach 25‑12, 25‑23, 25‑15, Pickens played solidly in every area and capitalized on their opponent’s mistakes. A strong defensive presence, perfect serving, and smart but aggressive offense yielded Pickens a winning performance; and

Whereas, along with acclaim for the team’s fine effort as a whole, the 26‑4 Lady Blue Flame was awash in recognition of individual standouts, including CAWS All‑State players Michaela Leslie and Brianna O’Shields, seniors who were also named CAWS All‑Star players and *High School Sports Report* All‑State players. Michaela Leslie was also tapped as a MaxPreps second team All‑American player for medium‑sized schools. In addition, Coach Gravely was named SCACA Volleyball Coach of the Year and *High School Sports Report* Class AAA Coach of the Year; and

Whereas, now the owner of five state titles as coach of the Lady Blue Flame, Coach Jennifer Gravely built her volleyball program into a championship team that refused to settle for second best; and

Whereas, once again, the Pickens High School volleyball team has succeeded in bringing home a state title and in so doing has brought great pride to its school and community. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate the Pickens High School girls volleyball team for winning the 2013 Class AAA State Championship title and applaud Coach Jennifer Gravely, her staff, and the players on a stellar season.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Marion Lawson and Coach Jennifer Gravely of Pickens High School.

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