**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SOUTH AIKEN HIGH SCHOOL GOLF TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR CAPTURING THE CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the South Aiken High School golf team of Aiken County took top honors at the state competition on Tuesday, May 14, 2013, at Furman University Golf Course in Greenville; and

Whereas, although the South Aiken Thoroughbreds entered the final round of the state championship tournament in second place with a nine shot deficit to Boiling Springs High School’s lead, they trimmed three strokes off in the first nine holes; and

Whereas, when the Thoroughbreds took the back nine, they turned a six‑stroke deficit into a three‑shot margin, to the “thorough” delight of their fans; and

Whereas, the veteran South Aiken team, with two seniors and a junior who had previously competed at the state level, made the winning difference for the Thoroughbreds; and

Whereas, although senior Hayden Ploeger carded wide‑ranging scores for the three rounds, he led the Thoroughbreds Tuesday with a 74 and a team‑best 54‑hole total of 225; Alex Handy played consistently and carded a 75 with a total of 227; freshman Jake Carter carded a 76, in spite of battling the flu the entire tournament, with a 239 total; and senior Ryan Carpenter carded 77 on the final round with a 231 total. The rest of the varsity team includes Brandon Pate, Brandon Meyer, Mickey Joslin, and Philip Edwards; and

Whereas, the South Aiken final round total of 302 was the lowest combined team score of any round in the sixteen‑team tournament; and

Whereas, under intense pressure, South Aiken made some excellent shots in challenging situations. The beautiful day, a pleasure to fans, provided erratic winds on a dry course, making a greater need to hit the fairway for a manageable approach to the hard and fast greens; and

Whereas, in honor of the thick mustache worn by assistant coach John Arbaugh, the players grew their own mustaches that served to unify the team and provide a rallying cry, “Fear the ‘stache”; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strategy and skill on the fairways and greens, Head Coach Drew Jernigan and Coach John Arbaugh capitalized on their own athletic skill and training to hone a championship team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the course; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the South Aiken golfers have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their continued accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor the South Aiken High School golf team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season, and congratulate them for winning the 2013 South Carolina Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Bryan Skipper and Coach Drew Jernigan.

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