**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE NATION FORD HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND FOR A SPECTACULAR PERFORMING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE DIRECTOR MARTIN DICKEY, HIS FINE STAFF, AND THE BAND FOR CAPTURING THE 2013 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Nation Ford High School marching band took top honors at the state competition, held at Spring Valley High School in Columbia on Saturday, October 26, 2013; and

Whereas, with a score of 94.675, the band swept the field to win its fourth state marching band championship in five years; and

Whereas, formed only seven years ago, the Nation Ford High School marching band has enjoyed a tremendous amount of success. In the fall of 2007, the band finished second in its first‑ever South Carolina Band Directors Association (SCBDA) Class AA state marching band championship. This was followed in 2008 with a second‑place finish in the SCBDA Class AAA state championship; and

Whereas, 2009 brought Nation Ford its first Class AAA state marching band championship, as well as a seventh‑place Class AA finish at the Bands of America Grand National Championships in Indianapolis, Indiana; and

Whereas, in 2011, the band was selected to perform on NBC‑TV in front of more than fifty million viewers in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. In 2012, the band continued its upward climb when it returned to the Bands of America Grand National Championships in Indianapolis and finished third in its class at this prestigious competition; and

Whereas, Director Martin Dickey, in an arena that demands unending discipline, practice, and energy, used his own musical ability and training to forge a championship marching band while teaching his students lessons that will prove invaluable throughout their lives; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the pride and recognition the Nation Ford High School marching band has brought to its school and community, and the members look forward to hearing of the band’s 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 commend the Nation Ford High School marching band for a spectacular performing season and congratulate Director Martin Dickey, his fine staff, and the band for capturing the 2013 Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Beverley Bowman and Director Martin Dickey of Nation Ford High School.

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