**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HARTSVILLE NORTHERN MINOR ALL‑STARS BASEBALL TEAM AND COACHES FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2013 DIXIE YOUTH CLASS AAA WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina is pleased to learn that the members of the Hartsville Northern Minor All‑Star team of Darlington County took top honors at the Dixie Youth World Series on Thursday, August 14, 2013, in Laurel, Mississippi; and

Whereas, to the delight of their fans, many of whom have traveled all the way to the World Series, Hartsville Northern cinched the trophy in a nail‑biting 13‑12 finish; and

Whereas, in its second game of the Series, Hartsville suffered a heart‑wrenching loss to Georgia 8‑7, but Hartsville answered the loss with five straight wins, including two against Laurel on Thursday to take the title; and

Whereas, as the Laurel players hoisted their bats at the bottom of the sixth inning, Hartsville led 13‑8, but Laurel reached home four times in that final inning with only one out, bringing the score to 13‑12; and

Whereas, the second out came as a result of a force out at second, and when the next batter popped up a foul ball near third, the ball fell solidly in the third baseman’s glove to ensure the trophy for Hartsville; and

Whereas, this is first time Hartsville has won a Dixie Youth World Series since Hartsville National won the 1983 majors championship; and

Whereas, Hartsville Northern All‑Star players include Andrew Chapman, Owen Taylor, Tyler Lawhon, Jarrett Elmore, Jenkins McCullum, Dariyan Pendergrass, Christian Sevilla, Rylan Howle, Ryan Elmore, Connor Strickland, McIver Wallace, and Dawson Wellmon; and

Whereas, support from individuals, businesses, and leaders of Hartsville made the journey to the Dixie Youth World Series possible for the championship Hartsville Northern team; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, agility, and timing, Head Coach Johnny McCullum, and his skilled assistant coaches, Rat Steen and Michael Wellmon, capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to mold a championship team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the diamond; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the Hartsville Northern baseball players have brought to the Palmetto State and to 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 House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Hartsville Northern Minor All‑Stars baseball team and coaches for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2013 Dixie Youth Class AAA World Series Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Johnny McCullum.

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