**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE THE BATESBURG‑LEESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM AND COACH DR. JERRY BROWN ON THEIR IMPRESSIVE WIN OF THE 2013 CLASS AA DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, supremely ready for the challenge, the Batesburg‑Leesville High School football team drove past Silver Bluff 28‑24 to capture the 2013 Class AA Division II State Championship, held on Friday, December 6, 2013; and

Whereas, quarterback Jac’Quiel Chandler’s two‑yard scoring keeper with 3:25 remaining put Batesburg‑Leesville ahead, and Terrance Wilson’s two‑point rush around left end helped seal the Panthers’ victory. Dontavious Morris intercepted Silver Bluff’s final pass in the end zone with 1.6 seconds left and left the Bulldogs with no more options; and

Whereas, when the Panthers’ defense came through on the Bulldogs’ final drive and put the amen on the game, Batesburg‑Leesville had clinched its first state title since 2005 and Dr. Jerry Brown’s fifth title with his third program; and

Whereas, at the contest in which the entire town seemed present to witness, Charlie W. Johnson Stadium in Columbia echoed with the cheers of exuberant Batesburg‑Leesville fans, pleased to see their confident predictions of victory realized as a satisfying end to a fine 12‑2 season. By the end of the title game, the Panthers’ admirers were already looking with anticipation toward a repeat performance next year; and

Whereas, such victories do not come overnight; they take determination and hard work. With proven consistency in both, Dr. Jerry Brown built his football program into a championship team that refused to settle for second best. His own strong faith in Christ and commitment not just to winning but, more importantly, to building young men of character is what sets him apart as a coach and mentor to these fine young men as he builds in them a strong foundation so that they may meet the trials and challenges of life; and

Whereas, the Panthers have brought great pride and recognition to their school and community, and the members of the House of Representatives are pleased to have this opportunity to recognize such a wonderful group of young athletes. 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 congratulate the Batesburg‑Leesville High School football team and Coach Dr. Jerry Brown on their impressive win of the 2013 Class AA Division II State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Raymond Padgett and Coach Dr. Jerry Brown of Batesburg‑Leesville High School.

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