**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE RIVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEIR COACHES, TEAM, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS ON WINNING THE 2016 AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at Irmo High School’s W.C. Hawkins Stadium, the River Bluff Gators boys soccer team defeated the Clover High School Blue Eagles 5-0 to capture the 2016 AAAA State Championship title; and

Whereas, the Gators began the game with one goal from Connor Deany in the first five minutes of the game. Sean O’Hara and Connor Slattery, with assists from Dean and Justin Salters, brought the halftime score to 4-0. In the fifty-fifth minute of the game, Hampton Scott brought the score to 5-0; and

Whereas, Head Coach Phil Savitz’s team consists of twelve seniors, nine juniors, and two sophomores. Seven team members were All Region players, three were All State players, and one was a Gatorade Player of the Year; and

Whereas, the Gators had reached the state semi-finals each of the past two seasons, but their season ended there. This year’s team scored sixteen goals and surrendered only one of their five postseason victories; and

Whereas, this team surpassed their previous records and went undefeated within their region for the third consecutive time in the school’s three-year history, compiling a cumulative 32-0 region record over that time and taking home the school’s first AAAA State Championship in any sport; and

The team finished this season with twenty-four wins and one loss and are ranked second in the nation on the USA Today/NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) poll; and

Whereas, with the support of assistant coaches Thad Miller, Phillip Thomas, Haze Weinspach, Zack Savitz, Doug Gray, Darryl Hammond, and David Enzastiga, Head Coach Phil Savitz received his seven hundredth career victory. He received his fifteenth South Carolina High School League title; and

Whereas, the journey to a state championship title requires discipline, dedication, and teamwork, qualities that will serve these young men well both on and off the field. With admiration, the Senate recognizes and applauds the outstanding work of the River Bluff High School boys soccer team and wishes its members continued success in all their future endeavors. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the River Bluff High School boys soccer team on an outstanding season and congratulate their coaches, team, and school officials on winning the 2016 AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Principal Dr. Luke Clamp, Athletic Director David Bennett, and Head Coach Phil Savitz.

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