**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO APPLAUD COACH PHIL SAVITZ OF RIVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL ON CAPTURING HIS SEVEN HUNDREDTH SOCCER WIN AND TO SALUTE HIM ON ENLARGING HIS WELL‑EARNED STATUS AS SOUTH CAROLINA’S ALL‑TIME WINNINGEST COACH.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Coach Phil Savitz of River Bluff High School has achieved his state‑record seven hundredth soccer win, an accomplishment that surprises no one who has followed his long and successful career; and

Whereas, on Saturday, May 14, 2016, Coach Savitz led River Bluff to school history when his team grabbed its first state championship in boys soccer. At the same time, Coach Savitz picked up his seven hundredth career win and fifteenth state championship. All this he accomplished with a soccer program that, like the school that sponsors it, is only three years old; and

Whereas, at the Class AAAA title game, the Gators scored four goals in the first half on their way to a 5‑0 win over Clover at Irmo’s W.C. Hawkins Stadium‑‑an ironic state of affairs since this very stadium was the place where Coach Savitz earned most of his seven hundred victories. The former South Carolina assistant won 634 games and fourteen state championships at Irmo in thirty‑three seasons before leaving to take over the River Bluff program when it began in 2013; and

Whereas, furthermore, Phil Savitz is only the seventeenth coach to win more than six hundred games in the entire nation; and

Whereas, Coach Savitz has been lauded many times at the regional, state, and national level, most recently as Coach of the Year for Region 5‑AAAA boys soccer. He was inducted into the South Carolina Soccer Coaches Association’s inaugural Hall of Fame class on June 15, 2007, and in 2012 he was inducted into the South Carolina Coaches Association Hall of Fame. In addition, *USA Today* and NSCAA have ranked his teams nationally many times, including three times in the top five. Twice his teams won four consecutive state championships (1987‑1990, 1995‑1998), a feat achieved only by Coach Savitz’s teams in Class AAAA. He also has coached both the North and the South All‑Star teams and served as co‑head coach of the South Carolina All‑Stars in the Clash of the Carolinas All‑Star Game. Academically, Coach Savitz’s teams have received the NSCAA Team Academic Award for outstanding achievement in the classroom numerous times. This coveted award is based on the overall team grade point average; and

Whereas, proud of this coaching legend’s stellar career, the House of Representatives takes great pleasure in adding its collective voice of praise to the many encomiums being showered on Phil Savitz at the news of his latest achievements. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, applaud Coach Phil Savitz of River Bluff High School on capturing his seven hundredth soccer win and salute him on enlarging his well‑earned status as South Carolina’s all‑time winningest coach.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Phil Savitz.

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