**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACHES FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA) EAST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives was pleased to learn that the members of the University of South Carolina men’s basketball team garnered a region title and punched a ticket to the program’s first Final Four appearance on March 26; and

Whereas, the Gamecock’s road to the Final Four began in Greenville against the Marquette Golden Eagles, who the Gamecocks defeated by a score of 93‑73; and

Whereas, the Gamecocks shocked the world by knocking off the #2 seed Duke Blue Devils by a score of 88-81, busting millions of NCAA bracket predictions; and

Whereas, after making it to the Sweet Sixteen, the Gamecocks blew out the Baylor Bears in front of a large crowd in New York’s Madison Square Garden; and

Whereas, led by Southeastern Conference Player of the Year, Sindarius Thornwell, the Gamecocks defeated the Florida Gators by a score of 77‑70 to claim the East Regional championship and move on to the team’s first Final Four appearance; and

Whereas, in a sport that exacts precisions, speed, and agility, Head Coach Frank Martin and his superb coaching staff maximized their own experience and passion to build a championship‑caliber team and impart lessons to these athletes that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that these basketball players have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their continued achievements in the days to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize the University of South Carolina men’s basketball team and coaches for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 National Collegiate Athletic Association East Regional championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Frank Martin.

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