**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE D. W. DANIEL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Daniel High cross country team of Pickens County took top honors at the state competition held at Sandhills Research Center in Columbia on Saturday, November 4, 2017; and

Whereas, to the delight of their faithful and patient fans, the Daniel High Lady Lions defeated their nearest rival 41 to 57, in a fine field of competitors, to claim the state title after two consecutive years in second place in AAA and then in AAAA competition; and

Whereas, the Daniel Lady Lions posted a stellar season, with a perfect score in the Pre‑Region Meet, taking first place in the Low Country Invitational and second honors at the Tri County Invitational, and winning the South Carolina Region 1 4A Meet and the Upper State Meet for an invitation to the State Meet. To make their success even sweeter, the season’s collective team GPA was 4.96; and

Whereas, some of the many individual honors for the team included Mari Cagle Lockhart’s being named Region 1 4A Runner of the Year, and she and teammates Ally Wilson, Eliza Sorber, Maren Sorber, and Julia Blouin were named to the All‑Region team; and

Whereas, Daniels’ Lockhart won her third straight individual title at the state meet, finishing in 18:13, while teammate Ally Wilson was runner‑up for the second time in 18:23. Teammate Maren Sorber and Eliza Sorber finished ninth in 19:13 and eleventh in 19:17, respectively, and these four Lady Lions were named to the All‑State team; and

Whereas, Coach Ashley Perry and Coach Paul Dawson were both named Region Coaches of the Year for South Carolina Region 1, and Coach Perry was named the South Carolina 4A State Coach of the Year; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands endurance, strength, and speed, Coaches Ashley Perry and Paul Dawson, maximized their own experience and training to build a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the field; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the Daniel runners have brought to their school and 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 South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor the D. W. Daniel High School girls cross country team, coaches, and school officials for an extraordinary season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 South Carolina Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Josh Young and Coaches Ashley Perry and Paul Dawson.

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