**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HAMMOND SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Hammond football team of Richland County took top honors at the state competition held at Benedict College’s Charlie W. Johnson Stadium in Columbia on Saturday, November 18, 2017; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their exuberant fans, the Hammond Skyhawks defeated Laurence Manning 49‑7 to claim the football program’s fifteenth state championship and the ninth for coach Erik Kimrey, who took over the program in 2004; and

Whereas, the Skyhawks scored forty‑two points in the first half on their way to, not only win the state championship, and to cap off their undefeated season; and

Whereas, Hammond scored forty or more points in seven of its last eight games, winning those games by at least twenty‑eight points. This was the fifth unbeaten season for coach Kimrey. He thinks his team’s dominance, especially late in the season, might have been the best he has witnessed during his tenure; and

Whereas, the team finished with four hundred twenty‑nine yards of offense, with three hundred fifty‑one yards coming in the first half. The Skyhawks managed to score on six of their seven drives in the first half; and

Whereas, Jordan Burch had four touchdown runs and a strong game for the Skyhawks defensive line. Senior quarterback Corbett Glick was 14 of 20 for three hundred thirteen yards and three touchdowns. His first touchdown was a fifty‑five yarder to Cleo Canty to put the Skyhawks up 7‑0 with only sixty‑nine seconds into the game. Glick’s other two touchdown passes went to senior Lucas Prickett, who finished with six catches for one hundred forty yards; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, expertise, and determination, Coach Kimrey maximized his own experience and passion to forge a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the gridiron; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the pride and recognition that the Hammond football players have brought to their school and their community and look forward to hearing of their continued accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Hammond School varsity football team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 South Carolina Independent School Association Class 3A State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Headmaster Chris Angel and Coach Erik Kimrey.

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