**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE US YOUTH SOCCER U14 BOYS SOCCER TEAM OF MOUNT PLEASANT, AND THEIR COACHES AND MANAGERS, FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THEIR DIVISION’S 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the US Youth Soccer U14 boys soccer team of Mount Pleasant took top honors at the national competition held in Frisco, Texas, during the week of July 23‑30, 2017; and

Whereas, the journey to the national championship began with league play in the fall of 2016, followed by the South Carolina Youth Soccer Bob Brantley State Cup in Spartanburg the weekend of May 13, 2017; and

Whereas, the Mount Pleasant U14 boys soccer team captured first place in the State Cup and advanced to the Southern Regional Championships in Greensboro, North Carolina, which began on June 23, 2017, with more than two hundred teams from twelve state associations throughout the Southeast; and

Whereas, after an intense weeklong soccer competition in North Carolina, these young athletes from the Lowcountry took top honors again, qualifying for the national competition in Texas where they competed against the top teams from the three other regions; and

Whereas, to the cheers of exuberant fans, the final match kicked off on the evening of Saturday, July 29, and after eighty minutes of play, the Mount Pleasant U14 boys soccer team had secured a national title in a 2‑1 victory over a competitive team from Beadling, Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, the 2017 U14 boys division title is the second US Youth Soccer national title for the Palmetto State in the forty-year history of the state association; and

Whereas, the Mount Pleasant U14 boys soccer team was awarded the Golden Ball, Golden Glove, and Fair Play Award, and five team members were selected to the All‑Tournament team; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, speed, and stamina, Head Coach Sachen Patel and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own experience and passion to hone 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 value the pride and recognition that the Mount Pleasant U14 boys soccer players have brought to their community and to our State and look to hear of their continued achievements 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 US Youth Soccer U14 boys soccer team of Mount Pleasant, and their coaches and managers, for an extraordinary season and congratulate them for winning their division’s 2017 national championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Sachen Patel.

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