**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that the members of the Southside High School boys basketball team of Greenville County took top honors at the 2017 Class AAA state competition on March 4, 2017, at Colonial Life Arena; and

Whereas, to the exuberant cheers of their fans, the Southside boys basketball team completed an impressive journey by claiming the Class AAA State Championship with a 65‑57 win over Dillon High School; and

Whereas, the Tigers finished the season with a 27‑1 record, despite being a relatively young team with only one senior on the roster. That senior, Jalen McKelvey, helped the team close the deal by scoring eight of his game high nineteen points in the fourth quarter; and

Whereas, Tuzion Brock scored six points in the first quarter as the Tigers jumped out to a 16‑10 lead. Five of Jalen’s points came in the first quarter, and Taymon Leamon added four points to the board. The Southside defense held Dillon to one basket and nine points to maintain a 27‑19 lead at the half. The Tiger’s zone defense gave the Wildcats difficulties offensively as Dillon only connected on five of thirty‑two shots in the half; and

Whereas, RJ Campbell got things going in the third quarter, scoring eight of the Tigers’ fifteen points in the frame. In the fourth, Dillon made a little run, but Brock made a couple of driving layups, and the Tigers connected on twelve free throws to seal the victory and claim the Class AAA State Championship; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands agility and skill, Coach Steve Beasley capitalized on his own athletic ability and training to forge a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the pride and recognition that the young men of the Southside High School basketball team have brought to their school and community and look forward to hearing of their continued accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate by this resolution, recognize and honor the Southside High School boys basketball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 Class AAA State Championship Title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Brad Griffith and Coach Steve Beasley.

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