**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE SUMTER DIXIE BOYS BASEBALL TEAM FOR ITS IMPRESSIVE WIN OF THE 2008 DIXIE BOYS WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE, SUMTER’S SECOND CONSECUTIVE WORLD SERIES TITLE AND DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL’S FIRST BACK-TO-BACK TITLE VICTORIES, AND TO HONOR THE PLAYERS, COACHES, AND STAFF ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON.

Whereas, baseball is a game of speed, power, precision, and agility, but to excel in baseball, a team must combine these talents with teamwork and good sportsmanship; and

Whereas, Coach Pat Buckner, Coach Dean Graham, and the players of the Sumter Dixie Boys baseball team captured the 2008 Dixie Boys World Series Championship title by convincingly uniting all these attributes in one unstoppable team, defeating Spring Hill, Florida, in the title game; and

Whereas, backed by a history of fine baseball, the Sumter All‑Stars traveled to the August 2008 playoffs in Covington, Georgia. Though they suffered a loss in their first game of the tournament, the team persevered and powerhoused their way to the top by crushing Mississippi 16-6, Virginia 9-5, North Carolina 11-1, and Louisiana 7-3; and

Whereas, this incredible comeback made the 12-5 victory against Florida even sweeter, and this championship, Sumter’s second consecutive World Series title, also made Dixie Youth Baseball history with Sumter being the only team to win two World Series titles back-to-back; and

Whereas, this same team of fourteen‑year‑olds won the Dixie Junior Boys World Series Championship title in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, as thirteen‑year‑olds in 2007; and

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives pauses to recognize the accomplishments and dedication of these fine athletes and their coaches and to congratulate them on their success. 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 commend the Sumter Dixie Boys baseball team for its impressive win of the 2008 Dixie Boys World Series Championship title, Sumter’s second consecutive World Series title and Dixie Youth Baseball’s first back-to-back title victories, and honor the players, coaches, and staff on an outstanding season.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Pat Buckner and Coach Dean Graham.

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