**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND WELCOME TO SOUTH CAROLINA THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION OF 1FFC MONTABAUR, A GERMAN YOUTH SOCCER TEAM, WHICH IS VISITING COLUMBIA DURING THE FIRST WEEK IN APRIL TO PARTICIPATE IN A YOUTH SOCCER CULTURAL-EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

Whereas, since 2003, 1FFC Montabaur, a girls’ youth soccer club from the City of Montabaur, located in the State of Rhineland‑Pfalz, Germany, has annually participated in a youth soccer cultural-exchange program with Columbia United FC, South Carolina’s largest youth soccer organization; and

Whereas, in this exchange program, student‑athletes from one of the clubs travel to the other club’s city, where they live in the host team’s homes, visit the host players’ schools, tour historic sites, attend cultural and sporting events unique to the host country, are educated on the host state’s and country’s systems of government and play “friendly” soccer competitions; and

Whereas, in this the seventh year of this annual youth soccer cultural-exchange program, the creation of lasting international friendships and good will among our young leaders of tomorrow continues, a practice that furthers the long-standing tradition of South Carolina and Rhineland‑Pfalz’s promotion of a positive, lasting socio‑economic international relationship between the youth, the citizens, the businesses, and the governments of both states; and

Whereas, this year, 1FFC Montabaur will be in Columbia the first full week in April to participate in the 2009 exchange program; and

Whereas, members of the 2009 German delegation of 1FFC Montabaur are:

Chiara Corzilius

Nicole Kaluza

Sarah Gielsdorf

Michele Löder

Ann Christin Flügel

Julia Wegner

Selina Holl

Lisa Hornof

Diana Hornof

Elisa Karbach

Kathleen Neitzert

Denise Mayer

Anna Pies

Rebecca Konhäuser

Lorena Schardt

Milena Schmidt

Carina Zbinden

Anna Lena Matheuszik

Steffi Schmidt

Andi Mueller

Alfred Mueller

Uwe Gielsdorf

Sabine Gielsdorf

Michael Saal

Jürgen Schardt; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives would like to recognize and extend to each member of the German delegation of 1FFC Montabaur a warm welcome to South Carolina and wish them a pleasant and rewarding visit to our State and every success in this youth soccer exchange. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and welcome to South Carolina the members of the delegation of 1FFC Montabaur, a German youth soccer team, which is visiting Columbia during the first week in April to participate in a youth soccer cultural exchange program.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to 1FFC Montabaur.

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