**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LOUIE GOLDEN, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AND HEAD BOYS BASKETBALL COACH FOR GREENVILLE’S SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL, FOR THIRTY‑SEVEN YEARS OF COACHING EXCELLENCE, TYPIFIED BY HIS LATEST WIN, THE 2009 CLASS AA STATE BOYS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas the House of Representatives is pleased to note that Louie Golden, athletic director and head boys basketball coach for Greenville’s Southside High School, has recently with his team captured the 2009 Class AA State Boys Basketball Championship title, a win that raises Coach Golden’s career record to 699 victories, making him the third‑winningest coach in South Carolina; and

Whereas, for this thirty‑seven‑year veteran of coaching, the 2009 state boys basketball championship is only the latest of many honors that have come his way, such as his induction into the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1995 and his being named SCACA Athletic Director of the Year in 1998, as well as having the Riverside High School gymnasium named in his honor; and

Whereas, Coach Golden got his start with early training at John Ford High School in St. Matthews. Following high school graduation, he pursued further education at Claflin College, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics, later completing a master’s degree in the same field at Southern Illinois University; and

Whereas, in the course of his career, he has built six state‑championship teams, six state‑championship runner‑up teams; and

Whereas, not one to neglect community involvement, this many‑times SCACA Coach of the Year and Region Coach of the Year has served as treasurer for twenty-one years and trustee for twenty‑two years at Saint Matthew United Methodist Church in Greenville. Among his many other commitments is Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Upstate, where he is a charter member; and

Whereas, acting as firm supports to his career, Coach Golden’s wife, the former Betty Washington, and his son, Louis Shaun Golden, are among the legendary coach’s chiefest blessings; and

Whereas, Louie Golden, known to Southside fans as the coach with “the Golden touch,” has become respected while serving as an educator not just for his numerous championships but primarily for the positive impact he has left on the lives of the many young men he has coached; and

Whereas, it is fitting that the House of Representatives should pause in its deliberations to recognize those educators who spend a lifetime shaping this great State’s young people for future success. The members take great pleasure in framing a fitting tribute to just such an educator, Louie Golden, an exemplary coach with a high dedication to his calling equaling the eminence of his many honors. 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 Louie Golden, athletic director and head boys basketball coach for Greenville’s Southside High School, for thirty‑seven years of coaching excellence, typified by his latest win, the 2009 Class AA State Boys Basketball Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Louie Golden.

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