**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MR. DEAN JONES, CHESNEE HIGH SCHOOL HEAD BASEBALL COACH, ON BEING NAMED 2008‑2009 NATIONAL BASEBALL COACH OF THE YEAR BY THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS.

Whereas, Mr. Dean Jones, Chesnee High School head baseball coach, has been named 2008‑2009 National Baseball Coach of the Year by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS); and

Whereas, under Coach Jones’ leadership, the Chesnee Eagles have built a baseball record of seven hundred three wins, with only two hundred eighty losses. They have brought home three state championships and twenty‑one conference titles, and for 2009 they grabbed the Region II‑AA championship. Coach Jones gives full credit for his success as a coach to the solid cooperation and support of his players, assistant coaches, school, and community; and

Whereas, giving of his time and talents even off the field, Coach Jones organized the first Chesnee Athletic Booster Club and helped organize the Spartanburg County Baseball Association, serving as its president four years; and

Whereas, a versatile coach and administrator, Dean Jones also served as head football coach for fourteen years and athletic director for thirty‑five years; and

Whereas, this legendary coach has compiled an impressive list of personal accomplishments during his forty‑five‑year coaching tenure, including being named Region Coach of the Year twenty‑two times, State Coach of the Year four times, and Southeastern Coach of the Year for 1992. He has also been inducted into the Chesnee High School Sports Hall of Fame, Gardner Webb University Sports Hall of Fame, and the South Carolina Coaches Association Hall of Fame. These honors, along with his other accomplishments, propelled him into the national spotlight in his winning the NFHS 2008‑2009 National Baseball Coach of the Year award, his most recent honor; and

Whereas, Coach Jones’ enthusiasm for what he does is readily apparent, and he sets a solid example for his players to follow. Speaking from first‑hand experience, Principal Tom Ezell of Chesnee High School says of him, “Obviously, we are very proud of Coach Jones and all his accomplishments through the years. I played for him in high school, so I know the impact he has on a kid. [Being named National Baseball Coach of the Year] is quite an honor for him and Chesnee High School”; and

Whereas, on January 22, 2010, in Columbia, Coach Dean Jones will be formally presented with the award, a fitting tribute to an exemplary coach with a high dedication to his calling equaling the eminence of the honor. The General Assembly takes great pleasure in recognizing Coach Jones as its recipient for 2008‑2009. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Mr. Dean Jones, Chesnee High School head baseball coach, on being named 2008‑2009 National Baseball Coach of the Year by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Dean Jones.

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