**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE THE BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON, AND TO CONGRATULATE THE PLAYERS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR CAPTURING THE 2009 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, on December 4, 2009, the Berkeley High School Stags finished the year with a 14‑1 record and defeated Rock Hill’s Northwestern High School Trojans 33‑24 to win the state title for the first time since 1996 ; and

Whereas, after a scoreless first quarter, both teams came off the bench to match each other with a 14‑14 finish to the first half when Northwestern scored with eight seconds left in the second quarter; and

Whereas, Northwestern scored ten unanswered points in the second half, and with less than ten minutes of play, the Berkeley defense held the Trojans, and the offensive line pounded down the field; and

Whereas, senior quarterback Bruce Ellington dominated the field with one hundred ninety‑one yards in twenty‑three carries and led the Stags in the championship victory with four touchdowns to end the season with thirty‑three touchdowns; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires strength, determination, and skill, Coach Jerry Brown and his fine staff used their own athletic ability and training to forge a championship team and instill a standard of excellence in these athletes that will prove invaluable throughout their lives; and

Whereas, the Berkeley High School football team has brought distinction and pride to their school and their community, and the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives look to hear of future accomplishments from these fine athletes. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor and recognize the Berkeley High School football team for an outstanding season, and congratulate the players, coaches, and school officials for capturing the 2009 Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Berkeley High School Principal Kim McLaren and Coach Jerry Brown.

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