**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND GREEN HORNETS BOYS VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2008 EIGHT-MAN DEAF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, AND THE LADY HORNETS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2009 MASON-DIXON CHAMPIONSHIP.

Whereas, winning athletes and coaches from the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind are fully supported by the school’s board chairman, Ms. Cindy Holland, and interim president, Ms. Carol Mabry; and

Whereas, members of the Green Hornets Varsity Football Team won the 2008 Deaf National Champions in eight‑man football. The team boasted a 7‑1 season and is nationally recognized as Eight‑Man Team of the Year by *Deaf Digest Sports*; and

Whereas, many of the football team members are also members of the school’s basketball team that was recently named Division II Basketball champions by the National Deaf Interscholastic Athletics Council; and

Whereas, the Lady Hornets Girls’ Basketball Team won the 32nd Annual Mason‑Dixon Basketball Tournament, and this was the first time the school has won the prestigious tournament since earning the title at the very first event in 1978; and

Whereas, the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind serves children who are deaf, blind, or sensory multidisabled throughout our State. The athletics program is an integral part of the educational process at the school, and the team and individual sports activities give students not only the opportunity to play and compete, but to build the kind of endurance and character that leads to success in life; and

Whereas, these accomplished athletes from across South Carolina include Kardeem Allen, Ja’han Green and Mariah Jackson of Beaufort; Justin Johnson of Camden; Deven Frazier of Cardova; Tyler Frederick (team manager) of Charleston; Jasmine Elleby and Cleveland Hallman of Columbia; Kia Smith of Dorchester; Jeffrey Rogers of Easley; Marvin Black of Florence; Paige Darus of Gray Court; Secret Lesesne of Greenville; Jartavius Price and Bubba Renfrow of Greenwood; Dedrick Simpson of Kingstree; Victoria Duncan of Lancaster; Sarah Williams (team manager) of Lyman; Shaquan Boyd of Newberry; Duane Robinson of Ridgeway; James Ivey (team manager) and Meka Minton of Rock Hill; Chelsea Spann of St. Stephen; Chris MacDonald of Six Mile; Shentara Cobb, Brianna Crayton, Shanquill Meadow, Cecilia Milligan and Chris Simons (team manager) of Spartanburg; Terry Frierson of Sumter; Brittnay Harrington and (her brother) Dearon Harrington of Wallace; Rakeem Johnson of Walterboro; and Hakeem Pinckney of Yemassee; and

Whereas, Brittnay won the MVP trophy, and she and Secret earned all star tournament awards. Linebacker Dedrick and defensive end Terry were named to the All American Football First Team, and Cleveland scored the first points after a touchdown for the school in almost two decades; and

Whereas, their coaches are Don Creech, named *Deaf Digest* Coach of the Year, Jessica Smith, Dennis White, and Joe Whitner. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind Green Hornets Boys Varsity Football Team upon winning the 2008 Eight-Man Deaf National Championship, and the Lady Hornets Girls Basketball Team upon winning the 2009 Mason-Dixon Championship.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind.

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