**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE JAMES F. BYRNES HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM OF SPARTANBURG COUNTY, AND TO CONGRATULATE THE PLAYERS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS FOR GARNERING THE 2010 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the James F. Byrnes High School football team captured the 2010 state championship trophy on December 4, 2010; and

Whereas, unranked at the beginning of the season after graduating a number of star players in 2009, the Byrnes Rebels started the season with two wins and two losses but made up for the slow beginning and lost opportunities the rest of the season; and

Whereas, the Rebels entered the state championship playoffs with a 9‑3 record and defeated the Mauldin Mavericks 44‑14 in their first game and the Dutch Fork Silver Foxes in the second game 31‑14; and

Whereas, hosting the third game of the playoffs, the Rebels defeated the Lexington Wildcats 31‑7, securing seventy straight home‑game wins, a record that dates back to the 2002 season when the seniors were in the fourth grade; and

Whereas, with a victory over Lexington, the James F. Byrnes High School football team won the chance to play for the state championship against the previous state champions, the Dorman Cavaliers; and

Whereas, scoring on their first possession of the game, the Rebels controlled the scoreboard, led by running back Shakeem Wharton, and won their third state championship in four years, their seventh in nine years, and their tenth football title in school history; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires strength, skill, and determination, Head Coach Jeff Rogers and his outstanding staff of coaches forged a championship team through rigorous practices and demanding drills and taught these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable throughout life on and off the gridiron; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the pride and recognition that the fine athletes of James F. Byrnes High School have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their future accomplishments. 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 the James F. Byrnes High School football team of Spartanburg County, and congratulate the players, coaches, and school administrators for garnering the 2010 Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Jeff Rogers and Coach Chris Miller.

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