**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HAMMOND SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM OF RICHLAND COUNTY, AND TO CONGRATULATE THE PLAYERS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS FOR GARNERING THE 2010 3A SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the Hammond School Skyhawks claimed their fifth consecutive state football championship on November 20, 2010; and

Whereas, beginning in 2006, the Skyhawks laid the foundation for their football dynasty in the South Carolina Independent School Association that has lasted half a decade and have made history in the Palmetto State as the first football team ever, public or private, to win five consecutive state championships; and

Whereas, in the championship game, the Hammond Skyhawks battled the Porter‑Gaud School Cyclones in a heated and close contest to reclaim the trophy with a 31‑21 victory; and

Whereas, senior defensive back Beach Corontzes led the defensive squad, intercepting one Cyclone pass and breaking up several others, and the Skyhawks were able to control the ball using junior Joey DeAngelis to pound the gridiron in the fourth quarter; and

Whereas, despite a sore knee and shoulder, senior B. J. Bennett played offense and defense, holding Porter‑Gaud’s standout Stanton Seckinger to two touchdowns; and

Whereas, three Skyhawk seniors, quarterback Dave Nidiffer and leading defensive players Joseph McDougall and Les Cotter, were honored with selection to the Shrine Bowl in Charlotte; and

Whereas, in demanding practices and with rigorous discipline, Head Coach Erik Kimrey, along with his dedicated coaching assistants Jon Wheeler, Jamie Scott, Jeff Barnes, Bill Kimrey, Chris Elliott, Gene Smith, and Bralyn Bennett, forged yet another championship team and taught their players constructive lessons that will prove invaluable to them on the field of life; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the pride and recognition that the Hammond Skyhawks have brought to their school and to their community and look forward to hearing of the continued accomplishments of 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, recognize and honor the Hammond School varsity football team of Richland County, and congratulate the players, coaches, and school administrators for garnering the 2010 3A South Carolina Independent School Association State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Hammond Headmaster Chris Angel and Head Coach Erik Kimrey.

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