**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MR. PAT EIDSON, PINEWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL HEAD BASKETBALL COACH, ON RECORDING HIS 700th CAREER VICTORY IN DECEMBER 2011, AND FOR A TRULY DISTINGUISHED COACHING CAREER THAT HAS MADE HIM ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PREPARATORY COACHES IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE UNITED STATES.

Whereas, the House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Mr. Pat Eidson, Pinewood Preparatory School head basketball coach, recorded his 700th career victory on December 30, 2011; and

Whereas, Coach Eidson reached this extraordinary milestone at the 19th Annual Piggly Wiggly Roundball Classic, held December 27‑30, 2011, when he led the Pinewood Panthers to a 78‑42 win over Manning. In honor of the occasion, tournament officials presented him with the game ball after the game; and

Whereas, the 700‑win mark is something only a handful of South Carolina coaches have achieved. According to this veteran coach, “The best part of it has been the number of kids I’ve been able to coach and the amount of time I’ve been able to put into their lives. That has been very rewarding”; and

Whereas, since he became a coach in 1979, Pat Eidson has touched the lives of hundreds of players. In addition to providing general mentoring, he has helped numerous young athletes move on to play at the college level, including several players who signed with Division 1 programs; and

Whereas, the first of his 700 wins came when he led an Easley Christian School team to a 66‑64 overtime victory. He spent about a decade at that school and led its basketball team to three state championships. He then moved to the Charleston area and coached at Northside Christian School for two years before taking the job at Pinewood, where he has led the Panthers to eight state titles; and

Whereas, Coach Eidson has now coached in five different decades, but he says his approach to coaching hasn’t changed much over the years. If he can get his students to fall in love with the game, as he says, he feels they will put the necessary time and effort into it; and

Whereas, most important of all, Coach Eidson’s enthusiasm for what he does is readily apparent, and he sets a solid example for his players to follow; and

Whereas, grateful for his positive impact on the many student athletes he has mentored and coached, the House takes great pleasure in recognizing Coach Pat Eidson on reaching his 700th career victory. The members anticipate with pleasure hearing of many more victories added to Coach Eidson’s record as he continues his fine work among South Carolina’s young people. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Mr. Pat Eidson, Pinewood Preparatory School basketball coach, on recording his 700th career victory in December 2011, and for a truly distinguished coaching career that has made him one of the most successful preparatory coaches in South Carolina and the United States.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Mr. Pat Eidson.

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