**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE NORTH CHARLESTON HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2012 CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the North Charleston High School varsity boys basketball team took top honors in the state competition at the Colonial Life Arena in Columbia on March 3, 2012; and

Whereas, the North Charleston Cougars roared out of the lockers to lead Newberry High School by a score of 18‑0 in the first quarter of the state championship game. By the end of the first quarter, the Cougars were up 20‑3; and at halftime they still led 32‑15. At the end of the third quarter, they held a stifling 42‑27 lead; and

Whereas, even though the Newberry Bulldogs made a valiant effort in the fourth quarter, the Cougars electrified their fans by claiming the title in a nail‑biting finish of 49‑48 and holding their opponents, a team that had averaged nearly 80 points per game in the season, to their lowest point total of the year; and

Whereas, Cougars Jamal Baldwin and Anthony Williams each scored fifteen points in leading North Charleston to victory over the Newberry Bulldogs in the state championship; and

Whereas, with a 23‑6 record for the season, the Cougars garnered their team’s first state championship since 1997; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, agility, and skill, first‑year Head Coach Blake Hall and his skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to mold a championship team and teach these young athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through their lives both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the recognition that the North Charleston High School varsity boys basketball players have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their continued accomplishments in the days ahead. 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 North Charleston High School varsity boys basketball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season, and congratulate them for winning the 2012 Class AA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Robert A. Grimm and Coach Blake Hall.

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