**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ABBEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM, AND TO CONGRATULATE THE TEAM MEMBERS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A STELLAR SEASON AND FOR CAPTURING THE UPPER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AND THE 2010 CLASS A DIVISION I STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that the Abbeville High School football team garnered the Class A Division I State Championship title on November 26, 2010; and

Whereas, to the delight of their fans and the disappointment of their foes, the Abbeville High School Panthers defeated the Lamar High School Silver Foxes 20 to 12, earning the Upper State football championship and the opportunity to win their first state championship since 1996; and

Whereas, honoring the reputation of the school mascot, the Panthers rushed four hundred thirty yards on their way to a crushing 42 to 13 victory over the Bamberg‑Ehrhardt Red Raiders and controlled the ball for thirty of the forty‑eight minutes of regulation play; and

Whereas, Panther Ashton Heard ran the ball two hundred thirty yards and scored two touchdowns on twenty‑five carries; teammate La’Quavas Watt staked out one hundred sixty‑seven yards and two touchdowns on twenty‑six carries and caught a touchdown pass as well, and Tyler Boyles completed two passes, both for touchdowns; and

Whereas, the Panthers domination on the field offensively was matched by their defense that stopped three Raider attempts in the red zone, and two of those at the goal line resulted in successful ninety‑nine‑yard touchdown runs for the Panthers; and

Whereas, adding to a stellar performance by the Panther defense, Andrew Osborne brought down four tackles and blocked two punt attempts by the Red Raiders; and

Whereas, the Abbeville Panthers finished the season with an outstanding 13‑1 record and remained undefeated in Region I play; and

Whereas, using their own athletic ability and training, Head Coach Jamie Nickles and his superb coaching staff forged a championship football team through rigorous practices and demanding drills and instilled a standard of excellence in these players that will prove invaluable to them throughout life both on and off the gridiron; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the pride and recognition that the Abbeville High School football team has brought to the school and the community and expect to hear of the continued success of these fine athletes in the future. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Abbeville High School football team, and congratulate the team members, coaches, and school officials for a stellar season and for capturing the Upper State championship and the 2010 Class A Division I State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Steve Glenn and Head Coach Jamie Nickles.

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