**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE NINETY SIX HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM ON WINNING THE 2014 CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

Whereas, the Ninety Six High School Wildcats baseball team grabbed top honors at the state title series on Tuesday, May 27, 2014, in the rubber match when it defeated the Loris High School Lions by a score of 8‑4; and

Whereas, the Wildcats, which won its first baseball title ever and had not been to the state championship series since 1963, showed resilience after losing the first game in the series 2‑1 in nine innings on a wild pitch; and

Whereas, the deciding game of the series was suspended Friday, May 23, 2014, in the fourth inning due to a hail storm when the Wildcats held a 6‑3 lead; and

Whereas, when the game resumed on Tuesday, in the bottom of the fourth, the Wildcats had runners on first and second bases with one out. On the Lions’ first pitch, base runners Reid Slack and Isaiah Furqueron stole second and third bases without a throw; and

Whereas, Slack then scored on a sacrifice fly by Spencer Williams, and Furqueron on a single by Josh Chaney, as the Wildcats extended its lead to five runs; and

Whereas, Ninety Six had replaced Friday night starting pitcher Isaiah Furqueron on Tuesday with junior ace and Game 2 winner Jacob Childress. Loris scored only one run against Childress in the top of the sixth; and

Whereas, in the seventh and final inning, Childress snagged a line drive to end the game and clinch the title for Ninety Six; and

Whereas, Coach Chad Ellis best expressed his team’s accomplishment when, shortly before his players doused him with the water cooler, he remarked, “Just to think at one point it seemed we were not even going to make it to state, then we won it. It just says a lot about our kids. They never gave up.”; and

Whereas, proud of these fine student athletes, the South Carolina Senate appreciates the recognition the Ninety Six High School baseball players have brought to their school and community, and the members look to hear of many more victories for the school in coming seasons. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Ninety Six High School baseball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and to congratulate them on winning the 2014 Class AA state championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Principal Rex Ward and Coach Chad Ellis.

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