**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HAMMOND SCHOOL HUNT SEAT EQUESTRIAN TEAM, COACH, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2013 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Hammond School hunt seat equestrian team of Richland County took top honors at the state competition on March 9, 2013; and

Whereas, a style of forward seat riding based on the tradition of fox hunting and commonly found in North American horse shows, hunt seat is one of the two classic forms of English riding; and

Whereas, in competition, the team coaches meet and draw the names of the horses that their riders will mount. Most of the competitors have never been on the horse they will ride for the judging, and over‑fence riders are allowed only two practice jumps before they enter the show ring; and

Whereas, if the riders are flatting in the competition, then they mount and go directly into the show ring, but they are allowed to watch the horses before the shows begin; and

Whereas, the considerable skill and confidence required to be judged on an unfamiliar horse, whether under‑saddle or over fences, makes success at any level an amazing feat; and

Whereas, judging is subjectively based on the ability and form of the rider and the elegance, cadence, and style of the horse that demonstrates that the hunter is easy to ride and attentive and responsive to its rider; and

Whereas, the nascent team competed against some ten teams to capture the school’s first hunt seat state championship and consists of only nine riders: Ann Taylor, Boyce Myers, Justice Myers, Madison Baker, Olivia Kelly, Kate Robison, Marielle McKissock, Isabelle Reidman, and Anna Peacock. Each member must compete in at least two Interscholastic Equestrian Association shows to qualify and cannot show in more than five; and

Whereas, Kristina Marie Landrum, in her first year as head coach for Hammond’s hunt seat team, has garnered over seven year‑end championships and over five year‑end reserve championships for the South Carolina Hunter Jumper Association and Progressive Show Jumping she has trained students of all ages and levels for over twenty years, and she has worked at Landrum Stables for fifteen years, thirteen of them as a barn manager; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands precision, grace, and strength, Coach Landrum capitalized on her own athletic ability and training to forge a championship hunt seat equestrian team and teach these riders lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the mount; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the Hammond hunt seat riders 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 Hammond School hunt seat equestrian team, coach, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the South Carolina Independent School Association State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Christopher B. Angel and Coach Kristina Marie Landrum.

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