**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THOMAS FINIGAN, A SENIOR TRUMPETER IN THE COLLETON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BAND OF BLUE, ON BEING SELECTED AS ONE OF ONE HUNDRED TWENY‑FIVE HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND MEMBERS TO PERFORM AT THE NATION’S PREMIER HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME, THE U.S. ARMY ALL‑AMERICAN BOWL.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that senior Thomas Finigan of Colleton County High School was named as one of one hundred tweny‑five high school marching band members to perform at the U.S. Army All‑American Bowl, the nation’s premier high school football game; and

Whereas, the game and half‑time band performance took place on Saturday, January 5, 2014, at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas; and

Whereas, having auditioned among two thousand five hundred applicants through the National Association for Music Education, Thomas, the son of Tom and Lori Finigan of Walterboro, was one of two musicians from South Carolina selected to perform with this outstanding group, called the U.S. Army All‑American Marching Band. In addition, Thomas was one of only sixteen trumpet players across the nation who made the final cut into the band; and

Whereas, to win a coveted post in the U.S. Army All‑American Marching Band, applicants must exhibit exceptional musicianship, marching achievement, character, and leadership, for the U.S. Army All‑American Bowl is a unique celebration of American youth and the American soldier. Exceptional mental, emotional, and physical strength, along with dedication, determination, and teamwork, are the hallmarks of those who participate in the event, and these characteristics earn All‑American Bowl players and marching band members the right to wear the colors of the U.S. Army; and

Whereas, for more than thirteen years, the All‑American Bowl has established itself as the nation’s premier high school sporting event and has featured a host of stars who have made their mark at the highest levels‑‑not just NFL stars, but top drum and bugle corps members, instrumental performance majors, and future music educators. Now in its eighth year, the U.S. Army All‑American Marching Band is establishing itself as a nationwide celebration of high school marching music; and

Whereas, proud of his fine achievement, the House takes great pleasure in saluting Thomas Finigan on being named to the U.S. Army All‑American Marching Band. The members look forward with interest to hearing of his further 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, congratulate Thomas Finigan, a senior trumpeter in the Colleton County High School Band of Blue, on being selected as one of 125 high school marching band members to perform at the nation’s premier high school football game, the U.S. Army All‑American Bowl.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Thomas Finigan.

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