**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY TRACK TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR SETTING A NEW STATE RECORD IN THE 4X400‑METER RELAY AT THE 2014 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP MEET.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Ridge View High School girls varsity track team of Richland County took top honors in the 4x400‑meter relay at the Class AAAA South Carolina High School League State Track Meet held at Spring Valley High School in Columbia on Saturday, May 17, 2014; and

Whereas, setting their sights high, the Ridge View Blazers hoped to post an all‑time school record in the 1,600‑meter relay at the state meet, but their aspirations were greeted with a much higher performance when their finishing time of 3:49.07 shattered not only a school but also the state record of 3:51.30 set by Spring Valley High School in 1993; and

Whereas, anchored by Arlicia Bush, the Blazer’s 4x400‑meter relay team, also including Amarrah Cooks, Johnaida Eliscar, and Faith McKie, was in second position behind J. L. Mann High School when she took the baton and pulled ahead to take first place, setting; and

Whereas, the Blazers had only two 400‑meter runners at the beginning of the season, making their feat all the more impressive. They were able to train two new 400‑meter runners and take the top honors in the event, breaking a twenty‑one‑year state record; and

Whereas, the young Ridge View girls track team competing in the state meet, which included senior Melinda McCallum, sophomores Arlicia Bush, Amarrah Cooks, and Faith McKie, and eighth‑grader Johnaida Eliscar, scored an overall forty‑two points and finished in a third‑place tie with Northwestern High School; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands perseverance, stamina, and strength, Head Coach Amber Haver and her skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to hone a team of champions and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable throughout life both on and off the track; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the Ridge View track stars have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their continued accomplishments in the years 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 Ridge View High School girls track team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for setting a new state record in the 4x400‑meter relay at the 2014 Class AAAA State Championship meet.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Principal Brenda Mack‑Foxworth and Coach Amber Haver.

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