**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE JAMES F. BYRNES HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM ON WINNING THE 2014 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, fully ready for the challenge, the James F. Byrnes High School softball team crowned its splendid season by capturing the 2014 Class AAAA State Championship title; and

Whereas, the win brought the triumphant Lady Rebels to the end of their season with the Class AAAA State title, Upper State and District titles, and Lady Rebel Invitational title, as well as a fine 26‑5 overall record; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands skill, speed, and teamwork, Head Coach Brandi Aiken and her skilled assistant coaches capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to forge a championship team and teach their athletes lessons that will prove invaluable throughout life, both on and off the diamond; and

Whereas, team members include Lauren Duggar, Bailey Pearson, Regan Messenger, Kate Burnett, Malibu Gaston, Briana Durrah, Allison Neely, Kaila Kyzer, Payten Bennett, Parker Birch, Haven Pesce, Christa Whitesides, Tatum Arboleda, Kassie Rimel, Kasey Widmeyer, Kayce Shelton, Victoria Hall, and Alexis Glenn (manager); and

Whereas, to add further luster to this coveted win, the Lady Rebels took home numerous other honors. Lauren Duggar was named CAWS Class AAAA Player of the Year, Region II Player of the Year, *Spartanburg Herald Journal* Player of the Year, and HSSR Miss Softball. She also won the *Spartanburg Herald Journal* Steve Sanders Scholarship. Lauren Duggar and Bailey Pearson were selected for the North‑South All‑Star game; Lauren Duggar, Bailey Pearson, Malibu Gaston, Regan Messenger, Kate Burnett, Allison Neely, and Tatum Arboleda were named All‑Region; Bailey Pearson was selected HSSR Class AAAA Player of the Year; and Brandi Aiken was named HSSR Class AAAA Coach of the Year; and

Whereas, in addition, Regan Messenger, Malibu Gaston, and Tatum Arboleda were named HSSR All‑State, and Christa Whitesides was selected for the HSSR All‑Rookie team. Finally, Bailey Pearson, Malibu Gaston, Regan Messenger, and Allison Neely were named *Spartanburg Herald Journal* All‑Area, and Lauren Duggar, Regan Messenger, and Kate Burnett were named *Spartanburg Herald Journal* All‑Academic; and

Whereas, the James F. Byrnes High School softball players have brought great pride and recognition to their school and community, and their many admirers, including the members of the House of Representatives, 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 James F. Byrnes High School softball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them on winning the 2014 Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Jeff Rogers and Head Coach Brandi Aiken.

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