**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HAMMOND SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2015 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Hammond School basketball team of Richland County took top honors in the state competition at the Sumter Civic Center on Saturday, February 28, 2015; and

Whereas, after sixteen years without a state title, the Hammond Skyhawks ended their 2015 season with a 64‑49 victory against Northwood Academy to capture the championship trophy and a season tally of twenty‑six wins and four losses; and

Whereas, in spite of the slow first half for the Skyhawk offense, Hammond took a 28‑24 lead into the lockers and hit the nets with impressive success in the decisive fourth quarter; and

Whereas, the Northwood Chargers were only down by five points with almost four and a half minutes remaining in the game, but the Skyhawks pulled away with eight unanswered points, six of them owing to Skyhawk Seventh Woods. He led his team in scoring with a total of nineteen points; and

Whereas, Chevez Goodwin, the Skyhawks’ six‑foot‑nine junior center, followed with sixteen points and eleven rebounds, and senior Xavier McDaniel scored fourteen points in the last game of his high school career; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, agility, and stamina, Head Coach Mark McClam and his skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to hone a championship team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the Hammond basketball players 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 boys varsity basketball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2015 South Carolina Independent School Association Class AAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Head of Upper School René Bickley and Coach Mark McClam.

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