**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

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

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Wilson Hall varsity baseball team of Sumter County took top honors at the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA) state competition held in North Charleston on Wednesday, May 13, 2015; and

Whereas, to the delight of their fans, the Wilson Hall Barons defeated Northwood Academy in the first two games of the best‑of‑three championship series; and

Whereas, the Barons captured their second straight SCISA state trophy and the team’s third since 2011; and

Whereas, after losing seven starters from last year’s team, hopes did not run high for the team to repeat last year’s winning season and state championship, but the team continued to improve throughout the season; and

Whereas, in the top of the first inning, the Barons opened their last game of the season with consecutive hits by McLendon Sears, Robert James, Dawson Price, and Sam Watford and an RBI hit from John Ballard to score four runs; and

Whereas, the Northwood Chargers posted two runs in the bottom of the inning, but the Barons answered with two runs in the third, making the early score 6‑2; and

Whereas, after Northwood scored three runs without a hit and closed the Baron’s margin to 6‑5, Wilson Hall’s defense recovered when McLendon Sears took the mound and struck out four of the six batters he faced in the sixth inning and the Barons’ John Ballard made the game‑saving catch to protect their 6‑5 victory; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, strategy, and quickness, Head Coach Tommy Jones and his skilled coaching staff maximized 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 diamond; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Wilson Hall baseball players have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their continued achievements 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 Wilson Hall varsity baseball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2015 Class AAA South Carolina Independent School Association State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Fred Moulton, Headmaster and High School Principal, and Coach Tommy Jones.

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