**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY TRACK TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR ANOTHER SUPERLATIVE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEIR 4X400‑METER RELAY TEAM FOR SETTING A NEW STATE RECORD AT THE 2015 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP MEET FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is delighted to learn that on Saturday, May 16, 2015, the girls varsity track team of Ridge View High School in Richland County claimed top honors in the 4x400‑meter relay at the Class AAAA South Carolina High School League State Track Meet for the second year in a row; and

Whereas, setting their sights yet higher than last year, the Ridge View Lady Blazers hoped to top their own state record of 3:49.47 which they had set in 2014 when they toppled a state record set nineteen years earlier; and

Whereas, although the Lady Blazers faced daunting challenges at the beginning of the season, including having no track on which to practice, they nevertheless achieved record-breaking success because of their remarkable athletic abilities and steadfast determination; and

Whereas, the Ridge View 4x400‑meter relay team, led by junior Arlicia Bush, who took top honors at the state meet in the 400‑meter dash, boasted a wealth of talent that included freshman Johnaida Eliscar, freshman LaNaya Martin, and junior Faith McKie; and

Whereas, entering the state competition seeded second behind Hillcrest High School and in front of school rival, J. L. Mann, the Lady Blazers’ 4x400‑meter relay team demonstrated their championship mettle and finished with another state‑record time of 3:48.81; and

Whereas, despite having only five sprinters on the their entire track team, including eighth grader Alliyah Brooks, and no distance runners, jumpers, or throwers, the Lady Blazers earned a fifth‑place finish in the David vs. Goliath match against much larger teams in the overall championship; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands endurance, strength, and speed, the runners of this spirited and indefatigable relay team were able to add the precision required for successfully and skillfully passing the baton because of their Olympic‑style workouts, brutal ice‑bath sessions, and strenuous goal setting; and

Whereas, in her last season as head coach of the Lady Blazers, Coach Amber Haver, along with her talented coaching staff, once again capitalized on their own athletic training and leadership skills to forge a top-caliber track team and teach these athletes valuable life lessons that apply on and off the track; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the hard work and exemplary sportsmanship of the entire Ridge View High School girls varsity track team, and for the pride and recognition that its relay team has brought to their school and their community and look forward to hearing of their achievements in the years to come. 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 another superlative season and congratulate their 4x400‑meter relay team for setting a new state record at the 2015 Class AAAA State Championship meet.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Brenda Mack‑Foxworth, Principal of Ridge View High School, and Coach Amber Haver.

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