**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SPARTANBURG DAY SCHOOL VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION 2015 CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Spartanburg Day School volleyball team of Spartanburg County took first place at the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA) state competition held on Tuesday, October 27, 2015; and

Whereas, with fans biting their nails to the finish, the Spartanburg Day School Lady Griffins captured their first‑ever state title by defeating the Lady Warriors of Spartanburg Christian Academy in a five-set match; and

Whereas, after falling to the Lady Warriors 16‑25 in the first set, the Lady Griffins battled neck and neck in the second set with Spartanburg Christian until the score was tied at 16; then Spartanburg Day pulled away and finished the second set 25‑20. With few errors, the Lady Griffins dominated the third set, winning it decisively by a 25‑16 margin; and

Whereas, in the fourth set both teams battled over the early points until the Lady Warriors pulled away 15‑10, but with six unanswered points, Spartanburg Day took the lead 16‑15. The Warrior team took advantage of some Griffin errors and battled to the front 24‑18. Although the Lady Griffins fought point for point, Spartanburg Christian won the set 25‑23. The teams stood at 2‑2; and

Whereas, in set five, Spartanburg Day pulled forward with an 8‑5 lead, but the Lady Warriors responded by grinding out a 10‑9 lead. After some long volleys and major plays for both teams, the Lady Griffins took a 14‑13 lead with an ace from Kaylee Owens, followed by a game‑stomping kill by Allie Lockman in the center of the court to finish the winning set 15‑13.

Whereas, sophomore setter Kathleen Babb led the winning effort with thirty‑eight assists, thirty‑one digs, and five kills. Middle hitters Kaylee Owens and Allie Lockman led the Griffin offense with eighteen and eleven kills, respectively, while senior right‑side Ashley Tracy added six. Senior Libby Davenport led the defense with twenty‑six kills, and Sara McCown nearly tied with twenty‑five, and Julia Cooper added twenty‑one. Lauren Oakes led the charge for the Lady Griffins on the service line and also added ten digs, three kills, and two blocks. Kathleen Babb and Kaylee Owens were named to the All-State team; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, agility, and speed, the Lady Griffins posted a season record of 26‑8, with Head Coach Mandy Johnson and her skilled coaching staff using their own athletic ability and training to forge this 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 are grateful for the satisfaction and recognition that the Spartanburg Day School volleyball 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 Spartanburg Day School volleyball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2015 South Carolina Independent School Association Class AA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Jack MacMullan and Coach Mandy Johnson.

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