**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ANDREW JACKSON ACADEMY 8‑MAN VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2015 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Andrew Jackson 8‑man football team of Bamberg County took top honors at the state competition held at Wilson Hall’s Spencer Field in Sumter on Friday, November 20, 2015; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their exuberant fans, Andrew Jackson Academy defeated Greenwood Christian School 20‑16 to capture the team’s first state trophy in seventeen years; and

Whereas, late in the second quarter, the Andrew Jackson Confederates were down 16‑0, but the team never gave up against the Greenwood Hawks that had netted them a perfect record; and

Whereas, the Confederates responded with less than two minutes in the first half to post their first score, and after twenty unanswered points and with the help of a vigorous defense, they stopped the Hawks and sealed a 20‑16 victory over Greenwood Christian; and

Whereas, undefeated for the first time since the team went 12‑0 in 1998 and won its last state title, the Confederates scored a program‑best 750 points in 2015 and finished the season 14‑0; and

Whereas, Andrew Jackson garnered four state championship titles in the 1990s, and has benefitted from a reinvigorated program under the direction of Head Coach Allen Sitterle, who coached four championship teams at Daniel High School in the 1990s, and under the leadership of eight seniors; and

Whereas, senior tailback Christian Lee finished his final game with 24 carries for 182 yards, two touchdowns, and a two‑point conversion run, leading the Confederates to the state trophy; and

Whereas, Andrew Jackson’s T. J. Metzger led his team’s defense with ten tackles, while teammate Dalton Bell followed with nine tackles, Brett McCormick had eight tackles, and Christian Lee and Zach Moseley each made seven tackles; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, expertise, and determination, second‑year Head Coach Allen Sitterle and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own athletic ability and training to forge a championship team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable on and off the gridiron; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the respect and recognition that the Andrew Jackson Academy football players have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their continued 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 Andrew Jackson Academy 8‑man varsity football team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and congratulate them for winning the 2015 South Carolina Independent School Association State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Head of School James W. Barnes, Jr., and Coach Allen Sitterle.

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