**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SPARTANBURG HIGH SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY TENNIS TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR WINNING THE DIVISION A NATIONAL TITLE OF THE 2016 DECOTURF HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS AND FOR GARNERING THREE CONSECUTIVE SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Spartanburg High School boys varsity tennis team took top honors at the DecoTurf High School Tennis Team Championships held in Chattanooga, Tennessee, March 18‑19, 2016; and

Whereas, the DecoTurf High School Tennis Team Championships is a national invitational high school tennis tournament. For the third consecutive year, the Spartanburg Vikings competed in the tournament, finishing seventh in 2014 and fourth in 2015; and

Whereas, to the delight of their exuberant fans, Spartanburg defeated St. Xavier High School of Louisville, Kentucky, 5‑4 to capture the national title for the Boys Division A; and

Whereas, Spartanburg’s Chambers Easterling won 6‑1, 6‑2 in number 1 singles, while teammate Arpit Maini won 6‑3, 6‑4 in number 4 singles. Eighth grader Ashe Ray clinched the title with a 6‑4, 6‑2 win in number 5 singles; and

Whereas, Vikings Bryce Keim and Chambers Easterling combined for a 7‑6 win in number 1 doubles, and Arpit Maini and Omar Williams posted a 7‑6 victory in number 2 doubles; and

Whereas, Spartanburg also has been successful within the State, winning the South Carolina Class AAAA State Championship title many times. In 2014, the Vikings defeated South Aiken High School 6‑0 and repeated the victory in 2015, again taking a decisive victory over South Aiken 5‑1; and

Whereas, on May 14, 2016, Spartanburg faced off once again against South Aiken in the state championship, taking every match for a 6-0 finish and earning a triple crown with the team’s third consecutive state title; and

Whereas, Spartanburg’s Chambers Easterling won the AAAA/AAA tennis state singles tournament for the second year in a row; Bryce Keim was voted to receive the 2016 Sportsman Award at the tournament; and Vikings Bryce Keim, Omar Williams, and Chambers Easterling were named to the 2016 All State tennis team; and

Whereas, the Vikings won every individual match in the twenty-three regular season and play-off outings this season and have won an amazing sixty-four consecutive team matches and are 88-2 during individual playoff matches during their three-year run; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands endurance, speed, and agility, Head Coach Todd Seagle 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 through life both on and off the courts; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Spartanburg High School boys varsity tennis players have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their future success 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 High School boys varsity tennis team, coaches, and school officials for winning the Division A national title of the 2016 DecoTurf High School Tennis Team Championships and for garnering three consecutive South Carolina Class AAAA State Championship titles.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Jeff Stevens and Coach Todd Seagle.

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