**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE DUCE STALEY, RUNNING BACKS COACH FOR THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLES AND VETERAN OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME, FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN HELPING THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLES TO THEIR STUNNING VICTORY IN SUPER BOWL LII AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS THROUGHOUT HIS PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL COACHING CAREER.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the members of the South Carolina Senate should pause in their deliberations to commend Duce Staley, former University of South Carolina Gamecock running back, for his remarkable role in helping the Philadelphia Eagles win Super Bowl LII; and

Whereas, on February 4, 2018, the Philadelphia Eagles made history by securing the franchise’s first‑ever Super Bowl win against the New England Patriots, and Palmetto State son Duce Staley was a vital part of the team’s successful offense; and

Whereas, Duce graduated from Airport High School in West Columbia where he was an All‑State wide receiver but played running back only occasionally; and

Whereas, playing running back for the University of South Carolina Gamecocks from 1995 to 1996, Duce amassed 1,852 rushing yards in just two seasons. As a senior, he was ranked thirteenth in the nation in rushing; and

Whereas, in 1997, Duce Staley was a third‑round draft choice of the Philadelphia Eagles, where he succeeded as a multitalented running back and was one of the most popular and toughest players ever to don an Eagles’ uniform; and

Whereas, he remained with the Eagles through 2003 and then played for the Pittsburgh Steelers from 2004 to 2006. During his playing career, he gained 5,785 yards, including 4,807 with the Eagles, the fifth most in team history, and he ranks sixth in the Eagles’ record book in total yards from scrimmage and sixteenth in receptions. He earned a Super Bowl XL championship ring with the Steelers in 2005; and

Whereas, in 2013, his first season coaching the Eagles’ running backs, Coach Staley was an integral force in a dynamic offense that helped set franchise records in points, total net yards, touchdowns, passing yards, and fewest turnovers. He was inducted into South Carolina’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2012; and

Whereas, during his playing years, he was devoted to his community, working with the Special Olympics and South Carolina’s early childhood education program, First Steps, and he launched the Catch 22 Foundation to assist single mothers. In 2003, he also traveled to greet United States troops stationed abroad in Iraq, Kuwait, and Qatar as part of the USO; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate takes great pride in the significant achievements of Coach Staley and in the prestige and recognition he has brought to this great State, and the members look forward to hearing of his continued accomplishments in the days to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and congratulate Duce Staley, running backs coach for the Philadelphia Eagles and veteran of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame, for his significant role in helping the Philadelphia Eagles to their stunning victory in Super Bowl LII and to wish him continued success throughout his professional football coaching career.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Duce Staley.

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