**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2018 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that the members of the Southside High School basketball team of Greenville County took top honors at the state competition held at Colonial Life Arena in Columbia on Saturday, March 3, 2018; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their exuberant fans, the Southside Tigers defeated the Ridgeland‑Hardeeville High School Jaguars 74‑58 in order to take home the team’s second straight state championship trophy; and

Whereas, the Tigers emerged as the 2017 Greenwood Christmas Tournament Champions. On the road to the state championship game, the team faced off against Columbia High School to win the first round of playoffs 73‑43. The Tigers defeated Pendleton High School 57‑44 in the second round, Camden 54‑35 in the third round, and Walhalla 54‑46 to capture the Upper‑state Championship title; and

Whereas, in the final game, Southside’s R. J. Campbell led his teammates with 20 points and 11 rebounds; Jamal Burke finished with 15 points and brought down 21 rebounds; Jayden Shell posted 12 points, and Jalon Calhoun put 11 points on the scoreboard, while Tobias Canada contributed 9, Tuzion Brock 4, and Tyus McKelvey 3; and

Whereas, several standout players for the season included Jamal Burke, named All Region 2 AAA and Region 2 AAA Player of the Year in 2018, as well as AAA All‑State in 2018; Tuzion Brock, named All Region 2 AAA in his junior and senior years; and R. J. Campbell, named All Region 2 AAA in the tenth and eleventh grades; and

Whereas, the top‑ranked Tigers finished the 2017‑2018 season 23‑2 with a 50‑3 record for the last two seasons and a 20‑0 record for region play; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires strength, agility, and accuracy, Head Coach Steve Beasley, named SCBCA state Coach of the Year, and the team’s skilled coaching staff maximized their experience and passion to forge a championship‑caliber 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 Senate value the pride and recognition that the Southside basketball 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 Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Southside High School boys varsity basketball team, coaches, and school officials for an extraordinary season and congratulate them for winning the 2018 South Carolina Class AAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Bradley Griffith and Coach Steve Beasley.

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