**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO SALUTE THE PINEWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL COMPETITIVE CHEER TEAM ON WINNING THE 2016 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION REGION I CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE AND TO HONOR THE TEAM AND ITS COACHES FOR A SUPERLATIVE SEASON.

Whereas, at Columbia’s Cardinal Newman School on November 10, 2016, the Pinewood Preparatory School competitive cheer team captured the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA) Region I Class AAA State Championship title, soaring their way past all competitors; and

Whereas, exultant Pinewood fans, proud that their team had just earned back‑to‑back state titles, watched with pride as the Lady Panthers collected the trophy that marked their sixth state championship; and

Whereas, by the time the Lady Panthers had claimed the crown, fans were already making plans to return next year to see their team repeat the feat; and

Whereas, demonstrating courage, drive, and pure heart, Pinewood turned in a marvelous performance, keeping the excited crowd enthralled for the entire competition; and

Whereas, this very young but extremely talented team also experienced an unexpected victory at the Debbie Rogers Classic in Columbia the week prior to the state competition. The Debbie Rogers Classic is the largest cheerleading competition in South Carolina, with almost a hundred teams in attendance. This competition is the precursor to the state championships for the public schools, and Pinewood was the only private school in attendance this year; and

Whereas, Head Coach Merrell Mann and Head Coach Dee Devlin, refusing to rest on last year’s laurels, trained their show‑stopping team to both technical and artistic excellence all the way to the top; and

Whereas, recognizing the commitment of these young athletes and the sacrifices they have made in order to reach their goals, the members of the House of Representatives take great pleasure in commending and honoring them for a successful year of cheering and the crowning achievement of capturing the SCISA Region I Class AAA State Championship title. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, salute the Pinewood Preparatory School competitive cheer team on winning the 2016 South Carolina Independent School Association Region I Class AAA State Championship title and honor the team and its coaches for a superlative season.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Head of School Steve Mandell, Head Coach Merrell Mann, and Head Coach Dee Devlinof Pinewood Preparatory School.

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