**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that the members of the Lighthouse Christian School girls varsity basketball team of Abbeville County took top honors at the South Carolina Association of Christian Schools (SCACS) state competition held at Grace Christian School in West Columbia on February 16 and 17, 2017; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their exuberant fans, the Lighthouse Lady Mariners defeated New Covenant 33‑22 to bring home the team’s second straight state trophy; and

Whereas, in the semi‑final tournament game against Union Christian Day School, Lighthouse Christian was down by ten points with only three minutes of regulation time remaining. In the nail‑biting minutes that followed, the Lady Mariners tied the score with twenty seconds to go and forced overtime play. They won the semi‑final game 55‑52 to move to the championship round; and

Whereas, the regular season had given both teams in the championship game reason to prepare for a duel in the final contest: New Covenant had defeated Lighthouse Christian once, and the Lady Mariners had returned the favor twice, all three games being decided by five points or less; and

Whereas, the back‑to‑back state championships for Lighthouse Christian posted the team’s first and second state titles, and the Lady Mariners ended their season with an impressive 12‑4 record; and

Whereas, sophomore Danielle Rankin who averaged 20.5 points per game, senior Audrey Whitworth, and freshman Alexis Noblin were named SCACS All‑Conference Class A Region 1 players for Lighthouse; and

Whereas, All‑Tournament players at the SCACS Class A State Tournament included freshman Kaylynn Ferqueron who averaged fifteen points per game and senior Emily Cannon who averaged ten rebounds per game; and

Whereas, not only have the Lady Mariners excelled in their performance on the court, but they have also set a high standard in the classroom with an overall team GPA of 3.5; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, agility, and accuracy, Head Coach Carey Blanchett and the skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own experience and passion to hone 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 General Assembly appreciate the pride and recognition that the Lighthouse 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 House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Lighthouse Christian School girls varsity basketball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 South Carolina Association of Christian Schools Class A State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Bennie Paige and Coach Carey Blanchett.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑