**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN’S SOCCER TEAM ON CAPTURING THE 2016 SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE (SEC) REGULAR‑SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP AND TO COMMEND THESE ATHLETES ON A SPECTACULAR SEASON.

Whereas, the University of South Carolina women’s soccer team left the field in high celebration on Sunday, October 23, 2016, and with good reason: playing in Knoxville, Tennessee, the Lady Gamecocks had just defeated Tennessee 2‑0 to win the SEC regular‑season crown; and

Whereas, the victory over Tennessee, coupled with Auburn’s 2‑1 loss to Texas A&M, gave the outright SEC title to USC. Auburn entered Sunday one game behind the Lady Gamecocks; and

Whereas, it’s not the first time USC has come out on top in SEC women’s soccer. Carolina racked up its second SEC regular‑season crown in 2016, having won its first in 2011. USC also won the SEC Tournament in 2009; and

Whereas, jubilant Carolina fans cheered with excitement as the Lady Gamecocks, with equal doses of heart and hustle, orchestrated a performance that gave sports pundits confidence in predicting a repeat triumph for 2017; and

Whereas, having honed her athletes into a championship machine, Coach Shelley Smith saw the fruits of her labors as the title trophy was hoisted; and

Whereas, the House is proud to declare its members among the USC women’s soccer team’s most ardent fans. On behalf of the people of South Carolina, the House offers its congratulations on a class act and best wishes for continued success. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the University of South Carolina women’s soccer team on capturing the 2016 Southeastern Conference (SEC) Regular‑Season Championship and commend these athletes on a spectacular season.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to President Harris Pastides and Coach Shelley Smith of the University of South Carolina.

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