**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A STELLAR SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the North Augusta High School girls basketball team of Aiken County took top honors at the state competition on March 4, 2017, at Colonial Life Arena in Richland County; and

Whereas, to the exuberant cheers of their fans, the Yellow Jackets clinched the Class AAAA title with a final score of 61‑37 against Wilson High School, honoring the school with its first‑ever championship in girls basketball; and

Whereas, a fresh banner proclaiming perfection will hang forevermore in North Augusta’s gym. For the twenty‑eighth time this season, the North Augusta girls stuck to their game plan and thrived defensively, and once again, the result was victory; and

Whereas, the Lady Yellow Jackets completed a perfect season at 28‑0. The final victory brought home the program’s first state title, and it came in the fitting form of domination. Applying their patented defensive pressure to disrupt Wilson early, North Augusta outscored the Lady Tigers 41‑19 in the first half. A 23‑9 second quarter, including a 15‑2 run, was the spark that produced North Augusta’s championship win; and

Whereas, Amari Young posted a double‑double with nineteen points and thirteen rebounds. She added five steals while going nine for thirteen on free throws. Kiara Jackson recorded ten points in fourteen minutes, most coming in the second quarter during North Augusta’s run. Mya Burns added seven points and nine rebounds, while Lonesha Lee had seven points. Junior varsity call‑up Bre Fuller punctuated the championship with a buzzer‑beating, banked‑in 3‑pointer that sent an already enthusiastic North Augusta sideline into raucous jubilance; and

Whereas, the 24‑point margin of victory marked North Augusta’s nineteenth win by twenty or more points. It also gave the Lady Yellow Jackets their twenty‑second consecutive win by a double‑digit margin, and they finished the year with twenty‑six of twenty‑eight wins by double digits; and

Whereas, North Augusta held Wilson to twenty‑two percent shooting, including twenty‑five percent in the first half to the Lady Yellow Jackets’ forty‑two percent. The Lady Tigers were forced outside and struggled to move the ball in a half‑court offense, generating tough shots around the perimeter. The Lady Yellow Jackets executed their plan of creating offense off their defense. They scored twenty‑five points off turnovers and nearly half of their points came in the paint; and

Whereas, Head Coach Crystal Cummings expressed her feelings over this phenomenal accomplishment, “A perfect season comes few and far between. Some coaches never experience that, so I’m very grateful and I’m very excited. I’m super proud of them, and we were telling them before the game, all the cones, running, and conditioning you did, you did it for today, and they never complained, they just kept pushing.” Through her experience and commitment, Coach Cummings has been able to teach these young women lessons that will remain with them both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the pride and recognition that the young women of the North Augusta High School basketball team have brought to their school and community and look forward to hearing of their accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor the North Augusta High School girls basketball team, coaches, and school officials for a stellar season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 South Carolina Class AAAA State Championship Title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal John Murphy and Head Coach Crystal Cummings.

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