**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DEANDRE’ JOHNSON FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR WINNING THE 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE IN THE 157‑POUND WEIGHT CLASS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that DeAndre’ Johnson of Beaufort County took top honors at the national competition held in Birmingham, Alabama, on March 11, 2017; and

Whereas, for only the second time in the program’s history, the Limestone College Saints’ wrestling team brought home a national trophy when senior DeAndre’ Johnson won a 14‑5 major decision victory over Destin McCauley of the University of Nebraska at Kearney in the finals of the 157‑pound weight bracket; and

Whereas, after a 2‑0 finish the day before in the semifinals, he took a sudden victory over an opponent from McKendree University, who finished fifth in the tournament; and

Whereas, DeAndre’ Johnson defeated the reigning national champion from Nebraska‑Kearney in the final match of the tournament, a match he dominated before it even started by staring into the eyes of his opponent as he was introduced into the arena; and

Whereas, during the first two periods of the final match, the two rivals vied for superiority before DeAndre’ Johnson took an impressive lead with a six‑point combination of a takedown and a near fall that extended his lead to 11‑5. He grappled for two more points with a near fall and then a riding‑time point to secure his major decision; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires perseverance and personal excellence, DeAndre’ Johnson maximized his own athleticism and passion to hone his wrestling skills and become a champion, learning lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the mats; and

Whereas, members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that DeAndre’ Johnson has brought to his college and his community and look to hear of his continued accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor DeAndre’ Johnson for an extraordinary season and congratulate him for winning the 2017 National Championship title in the 157‑pound weight class.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to DeAndre’ Johnson.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑