**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MID‑CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC CHALLENGE TEAM, ADVISORS, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 DIVISION II SOUTH CAROLINA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Mid‑Carolina academic challenge team of Newberry County took top honors at the state competition held at Woolard Auditorium in Camden on Thursday, March 16, 2017; and

Whereas, although the Mid‑Carolina team was undefeated with a perfect 17‑0 record, the total points accumulated determine where a school places for a position at the regional tournament, a three‑day competition from which the top teams proceed to the state championship; and

Whereas, in each year of the team’s three years of competition, Mid‑Carolina has advanced to the state championship, but this year, to the delight of fans, the team defeated a competitive array of challengers and emerged victorious, capturing the team’s first state trophy; and

Whereas, the academic challenge team was started to address different curricular standards, and members of the team practice throughout the academic year, initially every day for half an hour and then twice a week for an hour after school. Once the regular season ends, the team still meets three times a week after school, twice a week for one hour and once a week for two hours; and

Whereas, topics covered in competition include mythology, social studies, geography, American government, mathematics, and science, usually on an eleventh‑ or twelfth‑grade level with some college‑level content; and

Whereas, for regular questions, students are given ten seconds to answer, and on a math computation they have thirty seconds; and

Whereas, starting team members for Mid‑Carolina include co‑captains Jackson Delk and Grace Alger, Grant Mays, Brandon “Wugee” Kelly, Josh Blancher, and Julian McCormick. Other team members are Andrew Boland, Matthew Boland, William Bowers, team manager Kayla Clark, Anna Craven, Nick Douglas, Torey Gooding, Amanda Holloway, Marcos Izquierdo, Robert McDonald, Joe Murray, Ethan Yamin, and Riley Elridge; and

Whereas, in a field that exacts academic rigor at the highest levels, Advisor Lukas McCormick and his assistant, Dr. Lorraine Kibler, maximized their own experience and passion to produce a championship‑caliber team and provide these scholars with lessons that will prove invaluable through life both in and out of scholastic competition; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the pride and recognition that the members of the Mid‑Carolina academic challenge team have brought to their school and their community and looks to hear of their continued 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 Mid‑Carolina High School academic challenge team, advisors, and school officials for an extraordinary season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 Division II South Carolina State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Ray Cooper and Advisor Lukas McCormick.

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