**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE ST. JAMES HIGH SCHOOL’S CASEY MITCHELL ON WINNING THE 2017 CLASS AAAA BOYS STATE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP IN THE 500 FREESTYLE AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM AND HIS COACH ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON.

Whereas, on Saturday, October 14, 2017, St. James High School’s Casey Mitchell was crowned a champion at the state swimming championships, held at the University of South Carolina Natatorium in Columbia. In Class AAAA, the outstanding junior swimmer took home the very first gold medal in school history in the boys 500 freestyle with a time of 4:45.85; and

Whereas, along with his gold, Casey also nabbed third in the 100 backstroke with a time of 53.81; and

Whereas, the son of Mark and Sheila Mitchell, Casey started swimming at the age of six and has been a member of the St. James High School swim team since his seventh‑grade year. He joined a club swim team at the age of eight and continues to swim for the club year‑round. In addition, Casey is not the only Mitchell family member gifted in sports: He is a twin, and his brother Christian plays football for St. James High School; and

Whereas, academically, Casey is one of the top students in his class, and he is involved in community service and clubs within the school. A true scholar‑athlete for the St. James Sharks Athletic Department, he now is deservedly acknowledged as the best Class AAAA 500 freestyle swimmer in the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, Coach Niki Chapman Ferrell, drawing on her own athletic skill and experience, trained Casey all the way to the top of his swim competition; and

Whereas, appreciative of his deservedly fine reputation as a swimmer, as well as that of the entire St. James boys swim team, the House is pleased to commend Casey Mitchell on his title win. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, celebrate St. James High School’s Casey Mitchell on winning the 2017 Class AAAA Boys State Swimming Championship in the 500 freestyle and congratulate him and his coach on an outstanding season.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Casey Mitchell, Coach Niki Chapman Ferrell, and Principal Vann Pennell of St. James High School.

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