**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAMS’ DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR BRENT VENABLES, ON BEING SELECTED TO RECEIVE THE FRANK BROYLES AWARD.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is delighted to learn that Brent Venables, Clemson University defensive coordinator, has been named recipient of the 2016 Frank Broyles Award, given to honor the best assistant coach in college football; and

Whereas, presented annually by fifteen hundred assistant coaches representing all the Division I college football programs, the Broyles Award was first given in 1996. The current award was presented to Coach Venables on December 6, 2016, in Little Rock, Arkansas. He had been a finalist twice previously, in 2015 as Clemson defensive coordinator and in 2006 as defensive coordinator at Oklahoma. He is the first Clemson assistant coach to win the award; and

Whereas, Coach Venables is no stranger to excellence. In his twenty‑one years as a full‑time assistant coach, his teams have recorded twenty‑one winning seasons, played in twenty‑four bowl games, and won ten‑plus games seventeen times; and

Whereas, he has coached in five national championship games and helped the Tigers to their second national title in 2016 with a riveting 35‑31 win over Alabama; and

Whereas, in 2016, Coach Venables’ athletes amassed 130 tackles for loss and a school‑record 49 sacks. His teams have led the NCAA in total tackles for loss each of the last four seasons; and

Whereas, named by *Rivals* one of the “Top 10” 2015 recruiters in the ACC, Coach Venables was also selected 2014 National Defensive Coordinator of the Year by *FootballScoop* and National Recruiter of the Year by *Rivals* in 2015. Many other honors and achievements have accrued to this outstanding coach, and he is a big reason Clemson has won back‑to‑back ACC titles for the first time in twenty‑eight years; and

Whereas, he owns a national championship ring as co‑defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Oklahoma in 2000. As a player at Kansas State, he was Honorable Mention All‑Big Eight in 1992 with 124 tackles. He was also an All‑American at Garden City (Kansas) Community College, recording 276 career tackles for that institution; and

Whereas, in 1992, Brent Venables earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from Kansas State University. He finds strength for his labors in the strong support of his family: his lovely wife, Julie; their two sons, Jake and Tyler; and their two daughters, Laney and Addie; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate, appreciative of Brent Venables’ gifts as both football coach and exemplar to his athletes, take great pleasure in recognizing him on receiving this latest accolade, the coveted Frank Broyles Award for 2016. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate the Clemson University football teams’ Defensive Coordinator Brent Venables, on being selected to receive the Frank Broyles Award.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Brent Venables.

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