**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND COMMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA JUNIOR TENNIS FOUNDATION FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS TO HELP CREATE A BETTER FUTURE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA’S YOUTHS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives deem it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to recognize the South Carolina Junior Tennis Foundation (SCJTF) for the work they have put forth to brighten the future of young student‑athletes in the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, the SCJTF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that engages young student‑athletes from around South Carolina with the goal of helping them gain practical, real‑world business experience. The foundation also helps to identify and fund advancing players in need; and

Whereas, the SCJTF has two main initiatives, the State initiative and the Lowcountry initiative. The State initiative has excellence teams throughout South Carolina who are engaged in various fundraising activities. All proceeds from these activities stay in their respective local communities. The excellence teams are comprised of young student‑athletes who are responsible to plan, organize, execute, and complete a profit and loss statement for each fundraiser that they develop; and

Whereas, dubbed “ambassadors”, the student‑athletes and their parents are required to sign a contract stipulating that they maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0, handle social media responsibly, agree to remain drug and alcohol‑free, and exhibit the utmost sportsmanship in their community; and

Whereas, the fundraisers give the ambassadors valuable service hours, real‑world business experience, and professional references from leaders throughout the State; and

Whereas, the SCJTF Lowcountry initiative is designed to help identify and fund the advancing player in need. These players have the dream of pursuing a pathway to college through tennis, but may not have the means to fulfill their dream. The SCJTF identifies a small number of student‑athletes who show promise, but need help due to the exorbitant cost of junior tennis in the southern section of our State. The SCJTF helps fund tournament travel, coaching and program costs, equipment costs, and other things that may be needed in order to reach the level necessary to be a recruitable student‑athlete; and

Whereas, furthermore, the SCJTF is a platform that allows its ambassadors to go to various at‑risk and underfunded schools throughout the Palmetto State and deliver tennis coaching to young students on a regular basis; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives are grateful for the work put forth by the SCJTF to ensure a brighter future for our State’s children and wish them the greatest success as they continue to strive for this noble goal. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, honor and commend the South Carolina Junior Tennis Foundation for their tireless efforts to help create a better future for South Carolina’s youths.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the South Carolina Junior Tennis Foundation.

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