**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MARION ALL‑STAR 12U BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACHES FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2018 SOUTH CAROLINA RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION 12U DIVISION 11 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that the members of the 12U All‑Star basketball team of Marion County took top honors at the South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association (SCRPA) State Basketball Tournament for Division 11 held in Ridgeland on Saturday, March 10, 2018; and

Whereas, the Marion 12U basketball team first defeated a competitive field of fine challengers from Cheraw, Lake City, and Pawley’s Island to win the Eastern District Division 11 12U Basketball Tournament at the Marion Recreation Department on Saturday, March 3, 2018; and

Whereas, the Marion All Stars then advanced to the SCRPA State Tournament in Ridgeland, where the boys had to defeat two teams in order to claim the state trophy and earn the title of state champions; and

Whereas, in their first contest of the state match the Marion players fought a tough battle with Central Clemson to earn the opportunity to challenge Bamberg in the final match; and

Whereas, undaunted by a ten‑point deficit in their championship match against Bamberg, the Marion All Stars bounced back to secure a ten‑point victory and clinch the state championship, to the delight of their fans; and

Whereas, the Marion All‑Star team, consisting of students from Williams Middle School, Lake View Middle School, Aynor Middle School, and Marion Intermediate School, became the first team from this age group in Marion County to win a state championship; and

Whereas, the team could have been discouraged as it entered the tournament, having been eliminated in the first game on the road to the championship in each previous attempt, but instead they adopted a winner’s mindset by adhering to the motto, “One team, one fight; stay alert, stay alive; we stay humble and hunger for success”; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires agility and accuracy, coaches Randy Dennison, Antonio Vaught, and Anthony Lester capitalized on their own experience and passion to produce a championship‑caliber team and to teach these young athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly value the pride and recognition that the Marion 12U basketball players have brought to their schools and their community and look to hear of their continued accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Marion All‑Star 12U basketball team and coaches for a remarkable season and congratulate them for winning the 2018 South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association 12U Division 11 State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Randy Dennison, Coach Antonio Vaught, and Coach Anthony Lester.

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