**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE FOR ITS SUPPORT OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES AND TO APPLAUD LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ON BEING SELECTED AS A NATIONAL BANNER UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOL.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that, as part of Lexington School District One’s continuing support of Special Olympics athletes, Lexington High School served as the site of the Special Olympics National Unified Champion Schools Conference, February 7‑9, 2017. More than two hundred representatives from Special Olympics programs in forty‑eight states were in attendance; and

Whereas, during the conference, Lexington School District One presented forty‑five students, Special Olympics athletes, with athletic letters for their outstanding accomplishments in unified sports. Students receiving letters were from Lexington, River Bluff, and White Knoll high schools. All three are Unified Champion Schools (schools with demonstrated commitment to inclusion), and Lexington School District One is the first school district to award letters for Special Olympics training and unified sports teams (teams composed of athletes with and without intellectual disability) in the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, in addition, Lexington High School was the first school in the country, as well as the first among eight schools in South Carolina, to be recognized as a Banner Unified Champion School; and

Whereas, in further celebration of the letter presentation, more than one thousand students from Lexington High School, along with special guests Mary Davis and Kevin Negandhi of ESPN SportsCenter, helped unveil the school’s Unified Champion School banner in the Lexington High School gymnasium; and

Whereas, the General Assembly takes great pleasure in commending Lexington School District One for its leadership in the inclusion of Special Olympics athletes, and the members are proud to salute Lexington High as the first school in this great country to be named a Banner Unified Champion School. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor Lexington School District One for its support of Special Olympics athletes and applaud Lexington High School on being selected as a National Banner Unified Champion School.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Lexington School District One and Lexington High School.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑