**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE HEMINGWAY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS’ VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO HONOR THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 1A BOYS’ BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is proud to recognize the Hemingway High School boys’ basketball team for winning the 1A Boys’ Basketball State Championship on March 3, 2017 at the Colonial Life Arena in Columbia, South Carolina; and

Whereas, many of the players on this championship team formulated and homed their basketball skills under their little league coach Mose Flagler; and

Whereas, prior to the regular season, Hemingway competed in the Panther Classic tournament, posting wins against Mt. Zion Christian Academy and Carvers Bay. The Tigers also competed in the Pepsi Carolina Classic, posting wins against 3A Lake City, 5A Blythewood, and 4A Crestwood. The Tigers were the only team to play four straight days and appear in the championship game. Desmond Pressley scored a season high forty-five points in the team’s win against Blythewood; and

Whereas, after returning to regular season play, the Tigers won two non-region games against C.E. Murray and Carvers Bay. The Tigers went undefeated in the region, reeling off ten wins by an average margin of twenty points. In the playoffs, the Tigers beat C.E. Murray by a score of 88-58, Baptist Hill by a score of 62-41, and Bethune Bowman by a score of 83-55 in the Lower State Championship; and

Whereas, capping their season with their first state championship win since 2010, Hemingway defeated the Lewisville Lions 72-71. The teams took turns leading the scoreboard, and the game ended with a free throw contest, which the Tigers won, with two seconds left to play, after Darius Taylor stole an inbound pass by Lewisville; and

Whereas, the Tigers received many honors this season. Desmond Pressley was Region 6 Player of the Year, the All State 1A Player of the Year, a North South All Star Player, High School Sports Report’s 1A Player of the Year, Morning News Player of the Year, and a Channel 15 All Hoop Zone Player and was All Tournament at the Pepsi Carolina Classic. Darius Williams and Darius Taylor were named to the 1A All State Team, All Region, Morning News All Pee Dee Team, and High School Sports Report’s All 1A Team. Darius Williams was also named to the All Hoop Zone Team at Channel 15 and the All Tournament Team at the Panther Classic. Solomon Skinner and Tyrike Lewis were also All Region; and

Whereas, Glen Alvert Kennedy and the perseverance of this great school provided the academic and disciplinary climate for this team to reach its potential; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the pride and recognition that the Hemingway Tigers boys’ basketball team have brought to their school and community and look forward to a future filled with accomplishments by the team and its talented athletes. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate the Hemingway High School boys’ varsity basketball team, coaches, and school officials on an outstanding season and honor them for winning the 2017 1A Boys’ Basketball State Championship.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Greg Lawson and Principal Glen Kennedy.

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