**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO HONOR THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 CLASS 5A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Whereas, the General Assembly is proud to recognize the Northwestern High School baseball team for winning the Class 5A Baseball State Championship on May 20, 2017 at Blythewood High School; and

Whereas, the Northwestern Trojans defeated River Bluff 5‑2 and ended their season ranked number one, the same way they started the preseason according to the South Carolina Coaches Poll; and

Whereas, the Trojans’ state championship win marks the first state title for Northwestern; and

Whereas, throughout the season and during the state championship game, the team relied heavily on its pitchers, namely South Carolina commits John Gilreath and Wesley Sweatt. Gilreath, a lefty, retired the first thirteen batters and allowed only two hits and one run. Sweatt, a right‑hander, gave up one run but struck out Cameron Cribb to end the game; and

Whereas, Joel Taylor led the Trojans with three hits, including an RBI single. Andrew Shipman had an RBI triple, and Jordan Starkes also had two hits; and

Whereas, Northwestern coach Mitch Walters led his team to victory in the state championship, capping a successful season; and

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly appreciate the pride and recognition that the Northwestern Trojans baseball team has brought to its 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, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate the Northwestern High School baseball team, coaches, and school officials on an outstanding season and honor them for winning the 2017 Class 5A Baseball State Championship.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Mitch Walters and Principal James Blake.

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