**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM AND COACHES FOR WINNING THE 2018 COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE, TO RECOGNIZE THE TEAM’S NUMEROUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE SEASON, TO INVITE THE NUMBER‑ONE RANKED TIGERS AND CLEMSON OFFICIALS TO JOIN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN JOINT SESSION AT NOON ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019, WHEREBY COACH DABO SWINNEY IS INVITED TO ADDRESS THE JOINT SESSION, AND TO EXTEND THE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR DURING THE JOINT SESSION.

Whereas, on January 7, 2019, the pride of the entire Palmetto State, the Clemson University football team, climaxed a fabulous 2018 season by defeating the Alabama Crimson Tide 44‑16 to earn its second national title in only three years; and

Whereas, the season was set with an explosive offense and a staunch defense. Both ranked in the Top Ten of total offense and total defense, respectively; and

Whereas, in the national semifinal game, the Cotton Bowl, Clemson defeated Notre Dame 30‑3; and

Whereas, four Tigers were selected to the AP All‑American team. Also, five Tigers were selected to the first team of the All‑ACC team, and an additional thirteen were named to the second or third team or received honorable‑mention credit; and

Whereas, with the national championship win, the Tigers capped off a fifteen‑win season, including the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) championship, and a state championship. The Tigers are the first 15‑0 team in the modern era of major college football history; and

Whereas, in the championship game, Clemson’s quarterback and true freshman Trevor Lawrence, showcased his signature attribute, the poise of a veteran player. He passed for 347 yards and three touchdowns in Clemson’s victory over Alabama. His chief target in the game was Alabama‑native and true freshman Justyn Ross who caught six passes for 153 yards and a score. Ross had four catches for 129 yards in the third quarter alone, two of which were one‑handed catches for big gains; and

Whereas, Travis Etienne also added three touchdowns in the championship game, tying the Atlantic Coast Conference single‑season record for total touchdowns with twenty‑six; and

Whereas, Defensive Coordinator Brent Venables honed a defense that was able to push back the seemingly inevitable flood of the Crimson Tide and build a veritable dike against Alabama’s offense. The defense even got the initial score of the game by returning an interception for a touchdown; and

Whereas, the Clemson senior class leaves Clemson tied for the most victories ever by a single class and as two‑time national champions; and

Whereas, in his tenth full season at Clemson, Coach Dabo Swinney has won 116 games, including eight consecutive ten‑win seasons, and is only the second active coach to win multiple national championships. 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, congratulate the Clemson University football team and coaches for winning the 2018 College Football Playoff National Championship title and recognize the team’s numerous accomplishments.

Be it further resolved that the number one ranked Clemson Tigers’ football team and Clemson officials be invited to join the General Assembly in Joint Session at noon on Tuesday, February 26, 2019, in the chamber of the South Carolina House of Representatives, and invite Coach Dabo Swinney to address the Joint Session.

Be it further resolved that the privilege of the floor be extended to the Clemson football team and Clemson officials during the Joint Session.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Clemson football team, Coach Dabo Swinney, Athletic Director Dan Radakovich, and President James P. Clements.

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