**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE D. W. DANIEL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2018 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Daniel High School cross country team of Pickens County took top honors at the state competition held on Saturday, November 3, 2018; and

Whereas, to the delight of their exuberant fans, the Daniel High Lady Lions defeated all comers to take back‑to‑back state trophies in cross country competition. The team had garnered five other state titles in 1999, 2000, 2005, 2006, and 2007; and

Whereas, Ally Wilson captured the individual state title and teammate Mari Cagle Lockhart, who has won the first‑place honors at state three times, came in second place by one second. Maren Sorber took third place for the Lady Lions, to complete Daniel High’s sweep of the top three positions, a team feat never before achieved in the South Carolina High School League’s history; and

Whereas, since the program’s first individual cross country title in 1980, Daniel High has maintained a powerful cross country tradition, including seven other individual state titles. In the past thirteen years, the Lady Lions have taken first or second place all but two years since 2006; and

Whereas, All‑State honors for the Lady Lions went to Ally Wilson, Mari Cagle Lockhart, Maren Sorber, and Mismeh Balawi; and

Whereas, the Lady Lion cross country runners included Madi Abernathy, Sydney Akers, Maleah Balawi, Julia Blouin, Clare Boland, Hannah Brown, Annie Buck, Catherine Cory, Georgia Dodson, Audrey Dodson, Kate Dubose, Kate Hollingsworth, Nimasha Jayasinghe, Jordan King, Jane Laurence, Emma Macrae, Stella Mocko, Annaka Osborne, Audrey Sehorn, Eliza Sorber, Maren Sorber, Noah Warwick, and Ally Wilson; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires endurance, strength, and speed, Head Coach Ashley Perry and her skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own experience and passion to hone a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the trails; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the respect and honor that the Daniel High runners have brought to their school and their community and expect to hear of their continued success in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor the D. W. Daniel High School girls varsity cross country team, coaches, and school officials for an extraordinary season and congratulate them for winning the 2018 South Carolina Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Shannon Sharkey and Coach Ashley Perry.

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