**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Hillcrest High School wrestling team of Greenville County took top honors at the state competition held at Airport High School in West Columbia on Saturday, February 9, 2019; and

Whereas, the Rams triumphed over the defending Class AAAAA Rock Hill Bearcats and the Byrnes High School Rebels, both powerhouses in their division, in well‑fought victories to secure their win in the Upper State playoffs; and

Whereas, sophomore, Grantt Hopkins, secured the Rams’ first class AAAAA state championship with his pinfall victory against River Bluff’s, John Brown, with a final score of 41‑30; and

Whereas, this is the first state title win for the Rams wrestling team since their 2012 Class AAAA state title; and

Whereas, the Rams fell behind when the River Bluff Gators took the lead with wins in the 195 pound, 220 pound, and heavyweight divisions; and

Whereas, junior Josh Wilkerson fought back to reclaim the lead with a first‑period pinfall victory, while senior Letrell Westfield then garnered a 14‑4 decision in his match against River Bluff’s Brandon Riley; and

Whereas, Coach Robby Bell and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own experience and passion in a sport that demands mental stamina, strength, and individual excellence to forge a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the mats; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives take great pleasure in recognizing the young athletes of the Hillcrest High School wrestling team and anticipate with interest learning of their continued praiseworthy achievements. 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 Hillcrest High School wrestling team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and congratulate them for winning the 2019 South Carolina Class AAAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Hillcrest’s Principal G. Bryan Skipper and Coach Robby Bell.

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