**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE BEN LIPPEN SCHOOL VARSITY COMPETITION CHEER TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2018 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Ben Lippen competition cheer team of Richland County took top honors at the state competition held at the Sumter County Civic Center on Thursday, November 15, 2018; and

Whereas, to the delight of their faithful fans, the Ben Lippen competition cheer team defeated two other teams in the division to claim the state trophy with a score of 251, the team’s highest competitive score ever; and

Whereas, the Ben Lippen team members performed their choreography complete with transitions and a high degree of difficulty with keen attention to the execution of their jumps, stunts, and tumbling in order to earn the winning overall score; and

Whereas, with the 2018 victory, Ben Lippen’s Lady Falcon cheer team has taken two consecutive state championships; and

Whereas, three Lady Falcon seniors received special recognition for their outstanding athletic abilities at their respective positions: backspot position Jaden Caughman, base position Sarah Acuff, and flyer Jana Rubinson; and

Whereas, besides the two state championships for Ben Lippen, Falcon Head Coach Ellen Jennings has coached eight competitive cheer teams in the South Carolina Independent School Association to the state championships and has won seven state titles; and

Whereas, in a sport that exacts precision, grace, and strength, Coach Jennings and her skilled coaching staff maximized their own experience and training to hone 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 South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the members of the Ben Lippen cheer team have brought to the school and to the community and look to hear of the team’s continued accomplishments in the days to come. 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 Ben Lippen School varsity competition cheer team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2018 South Carolina Independent School Association Division II State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Max Russell and Coach Ellen Jennings.

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