**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE HILTON HEAD PREPARATORY SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM ON ITS IMPRESSIVE WIN OF THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION 2A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, supremely ready for the challenge, the Hilton Head Preparatory School boys basketball team drove past Shannon Forest 57‑43 to capture the 2019 South Carolina Independent School Association 2A State Championship, held on Saturday, February 23, 2019; and

Whereas, the Sumter County Civic Center echoed with the cheers of exuberant Hilton Head fans as the Dolphins played hardcore defense against a team known for its shooting, holding the Crusaders to twelve points in the first half; and

Whereas, senior Avern Montaque led his team with 15 points, nine rebounds, four steals, and two blocks, and credited the victory to a total team effort, while fellow senior Haddith Stewart added 11, including two clutch 3-pointers in the second half; and

Whereas, the championship roster also included seniors Logan Blair, Jack Braun, and Hunter Hopman; juniors Luke Bennett, Tyrone Calloway, Stone McDonald, and Felipe Mendoza; and sophomores Luke Foley, Carson King, and Max Marko; and

Whereas, after losing twice early in the season, this squad won 25 games in a row for a 26-2 record, defeating Christian Academy of Myrtle Beach by a score of 71-66 in the semifinals and ending Shannon Forest’s 28-game winning streak in the championship contest; and

Whereas, although there are five seniors who ended their high school careers with the state title, there are seven returning players, and the Dolphins’ many admirers are already looking with anticipation toward a repeat performance next year; and

Whereas, such victories do not come overnight; they take determination and hard work. With proven consistency in both, Head Coach Jerry Faulkner has built his boys basketball program into championship caliber and trained his athletes not to settle for second best; and

Whereas, the Dolphins have brought great pride and recognition to their school and community, and the House is pleased to have this opportunity to recognize such an outstanding group of young athletes. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate the Hilton Head Preparatory School boys basketball team on its impressive win of the 2019 South Carolina Independent School Association 2A State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Headmaster Jon A. Hopman and Head Coach Jerry Faulkner of Hilton Head Preparatory School.

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