**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE DIXIE HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SOFTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND FOR WINNING THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Dixie High School softball team of Anderson County garnered the trophy at the state series held at River Bluff High School in Lexington on Friday, May 17, 2019; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their faithful fans, the Dixie Lady Hornets defeated the competitive Lake View High School Lady Gators 7‑6 in the third game of the series, capturing the team’s third state championship in the last seven years; and

Whereas, Lady Hornet eighth‑grader Lauren Foster hit a double in the second inning and advanced to third on the throw while seventh‑grade teammate Caylee Brown beat a throw to home and scored Dixie’s first run. A sacrifice hit from Tallie Clamp scored Lauren Foster to end the inning; and

Whereas, the Lady Hornets added another run in the third inning when freshman Weslyn Bensel scored on an error, giving Dixie a 3‑0 lead, but Lake View managed to post two unearned runs in the fourth inning; and

Whereas, one of Dixie’s two seniors, Mackenzie Freeman, who has committed to play softball for the University of South Carolina Beaufort, sent a pitch over the left‑field fence in the fifth inning with the bases loaded, and the grand slam settled Dixie in with a 7‑2 lead; and

Whereas, the Lady Hornets watched their impressive lead dwindle in the following two innings when they committed a number of errors; and

Whereas, Dixie’s pitcher Caylee Brown, however, never surrendered a run in the final two innings and carried the Lady Hornets to the win 7‑6, giving the young team the victory for the state championship title; and

Whereas, in a sport that exacts strength, strategy, and speed, Head Coach Gary Stone and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own athletic ability and training to hone a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the diamond; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the pride and recognition that the Dixie softball players have brought to their school and their community, and the members expect to hear of their continued accomplishments 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, congratulate the Dixie High School varsity softball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and for winning the 2019 South Carolina Class A State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Lori Brewton and Coach Gary Stone.

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