**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE LANDRUM HIGH SCHOOL BOYS STRENGTH TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND FOR WINNING THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Landrum High strength team of Spartanburg County took top honors at the state tournament held at White Knoll High School in Lexington on March 24, 2019; and

Whereas, after finishing in second place for two consecutive years, the Class AA Landrum strength team members delighted their exuberant fans by defeating a competitive field of athletes from Class A through Class AAAAA schools to capture the state title; and

Whereas, not only did the Landrum Cardinals earn the state trophy, but six of the seven members finished in the top ten in the State for their weight class against other competitors; and

Whereas, Anthony Anderson set two state records in the 140-pound weight class with a 425‑pound squat and a 655‑pound total, and he was named the 140‑pound state champion, defeating many AAA and AAAA competitors; and

Whereas, teammate Wrenn Pierce finished in ninth place in the 140‑pound weight class and set a personal record in the bench with a 205‑pound effort while AJ Raber finished with an impressive 335‑pound squat in the 180‑pound weight class. Kericho McCauley finished sixth overall in his weight class, had a fourth‑place bench press finish at 245 pounds, and added a 435‑pound squat and a fourth‑place finish in broad jump for his class. Isaac McDowell finished in seventh place and posted a personal best in the squat and bench with 435‑ and 310‑pound efforts, respectively. Stanley Belue Taylor had the second highest squat in the State in the 220‑weight class with 475 pounds, and he recorded a ninth place finish. Blake McCullough also had a ninth place finish with a 405‑pound squat and 285‑pound bench; and

Whereas, in 2016, Head Coach Cooksey won the South Carolina Association for Physical Education and Sports Teacher of the Year Award at the High School Physical Education Level, and he has proven to be a vital asset to Landrum High School’s strength team, as well as the other athletic programs at Landrum; and

Whereas, in a sport that exacts strength, stamina, and individual excellence, Coach Cooksey and his skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to forge a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable throughout life; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the pride and recognition that the members of the Landrum High School strength team have brought to their school and their community and looks to hear of their continued achievements 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 Landrum High School boys strength team, coaches, and school officials for an extraordinary season and congratulate them for winning the 2019 South Carolina State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal J. Kegan Flynn and Coach Chad Cooksey.

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