**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CHAPMAN HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Chapman High School football team of Spartanburg County achieved the highest honor at the University of South Carolina Williams‑Brice Stadium in Columbia on Saturday, December 7, 2019; and

Whereas, in their third meeting in four years for the state AAA title championship, the Chapman High Panthers defeated Dillon High School 44‑14; and

Whereas, the Panthers were led by quarterback Mikele Colasurdo, South Carolina’s Gatorade Player of the Year and Georgia State commit, who threw for 219 yards, two touchdowns, and ran for forty‑one yards to secure a victory over the Dillon program in the championship game; and

Whereas, the Panthers strong defense made a statement early in the game when Eli Whittemore sacked the Dillon quarterback, forcing a fumble that Whittemore’s defensive teammate Gabe Watson returned for a fifteen yard touchdown; and

Whereas, despite Dillon’s defensive efforts, Chapman’s offense dominated the first half of the game, securing a thirty‑eight yard touchdown right before halftime to make their lead 27‑7; and

Whereas, continuing their dominance in the second half, Chapman traveled sixty‑five yards in the first one minute and nine seconds to boost their score by another touchdown; and

Whereas, the Chapman Panthers defense limited the Dillon Wildcats to 193 yards of total offense in the game, aided by junior linebacker Camden Gray who recorded six tackles and played a key role in pressuring the Wildcats offense despite an injury on his right hand; and

Whereas, the game ended with a final score of 44‑14, reflecting the strength and determination of the entire Chapman team, not only in the state title game, but through their entire undefeated season; and

Whereas, Chapman finished with one of the best scoring seasons in state history with a 15‑0 record and 847 total points scored; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands expertise, precision, and motivation, Head Coach Mark Hodge and his skilled coaching staff utilized their own passion, training, and athletic ability to produce a championship team and develop these young athletes by teaching them lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the football field; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition the Chapman football players have brought to their school and community, and look forward to see their continued achievements in the years ahead. 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 Chapman High School varsity football team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2019 South Carolina Class AAA State Championship Title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Andrew McMillan, School Principal, and Coach Mark Hodge.

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