**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE LATTA MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC CHALLENGE TEAM, COACH, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE TITLE AS THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONS OF ACADEMICS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Latta Middle School Academic Challenge team of Dillon County took home the top honors at the 2019 state competition held at Winthrop University on March 29, 2019; and

Whereas, to the delight of their exuberant fans, the Latta Middle School Vikings defeated a worthy field of academic challengers to take the state trophy earning nearly 70 points. The team accrued some 400 cumulative points for the season; and

Whereas, team members include eighth graders Brycelyn Berry, John Gasque, Nathan Holloman, Michael Hunt, and Zachary Peacock; and seventh graders Easton Anderson, Nicholas Hyatt, Jacob Mijalli, and Adam Peacock; and

Whereas, each of the members of the Latta team played an indispensable role in both the regional and the state competitions, and John Gasque was named the Most Valuable Player; and

Whereas, although the team members performed well under pressure to secure their victory, they understand that the purpose of the Academic Challenge organization is to gather great minds together to celebrate their excitement of learning; and

Whereas, in a field that demands rigorous study, mental acuity, and confidence, Coach Cristin Richards maximized her own experience and passion in order to hone a championship‑caliber team and teach these scholars invaluable life lessons; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Latta scholars have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their future success 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 Latta Middle School Academic Challenge team, coach, and school officials for a remarkable season and congratulate them for winning the title as the 2019 South Carolina Division II State Champions of Academics.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Debra Morris and Coach Cristin Richards.

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