**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE POWDERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO COMMEND 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 Powdersville High School volleyball team of Anderson County captured the state title at the tournament held at River Bluff High School in Lexington on Saturday, November 9, 2019; and

Whereas, the Powdersville fans exploded with enthusiasm to see their team defeat Gilbert High School and take the team’s second consecutive state victory 3‑0 in the best three out of five; and

Whereas, last year Powdersville’s Lady Patriots took the team’s first state title by destroying Bishop England’s eighteen consecutive state titles, and before the championship game, the team members had written a “19” with an “X” through it on one of their hands to remind themselves what they wanted to do with that streak and a “1” on the other hand to presage the start of their own winning streak; and

Whereas, this year, the Patriots marked a “2” on one hand for their second title in a row and an “X” through a “1” for Gilbert’s Lady Indians, and Powdersville did just that, becoming the first team in the school’s history to take back‑to‑back state championships; and

Whereas, the team had learned that whoever starts fast usually ends fast, so the Lady Patriots dominated the first two sets with 25‑14 and 25‑15 wins, by locking in and focusing; and

Whereas, with 15 kills, senior Lexi Albright led the Lady Patriots, while four other teammates had at least 5 each, and Senior Reagan Davis handed her teammates 33 assists; and

Whereas, Gilbert’s Lady Indians pushed back to begin the third set with an 8‑4 run, but after a Powdersville timeout, the Lady Patriots responded with their own 8‑4 run and tied the game at 12. The teams exchanged points bringing the tie to 17; and

Whereas, after Powdersville erupted with a five‑point run for a 22‑17 lead, the Lady Indians managed to reduce their deficit to one, but Patriot Megan Carpenter powered a kill to put her team up for good, and the Patriots finished the final set of the championship 25‑22 to win the title in a sweep; and

Whereas, seniors Lexi Albright, Reagan Davis, Taylor Burger, Emma Love, and Avery Stoneman entered Powdersville High before the volleyball program ever won even a region title, and with their outstanding leadership and athleticism, they amassed three consecutive trips to the state final and two state trophies; and.

Whereas, Head Coach Brooke Passini and her expert coaching staff afforded these athletes the training they needed to forge a team of champions and learn life lessons to carry them beyond the court; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the distinction and respect that the Powdersville volleyballers have given to their school and their community, and the members look 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 Powdersville High School varsity volleyball team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and commend 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. Chris Ferguson, Principal, and to Coach Brooke Passini.

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