**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE GRAY COLLEGIATE ACADEMY BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO HONOR THEM FOR WINNING THE 2019 2A STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is proud to recognize the Gray Collegiate Academy basketball team for winning the 2019 2A State Basketball Championship on March 2, 2019 at the Colonial Life Arena; and

Whereas, this win marks the Gray Collegiate Academy War Eagles’ second-straight title; and

Whereas, in the state championship, Gray Collegiate Academy defeated Andrew Jackson 79‑38. Tommy Bruner led the way in points scored, with nineteen, followed by fellow seniors Jalil and Khalil Robinson, with fifteen and twelve points respectively. Jalen Deloach and Dallaz Corbitt combined for seventeen points and twenty rebounds, and they gave the team numerous second-chance points. The championship was the sixth time this season that Gray Collegiate Academy has held an opponent under forty points in a game; and

Whereas, leading up to the state championship, the War Eagles played a challenging non‑region schedule with games at the City of Palms tournament and the Chick-fil-A Classic over Christmas; and

Whereas, with an exceptional season overall, the team had a record of 20‑10 for the year; and

Whereas, the Gray Collegiate Academy basketball team features exceptional seniors, Tommy Bruner, Khalil Robinson, Jalil Robinson, Dallaz Corbitt, Ty Rivers, Daiyon Jenkins, and Benjamin Jeffcoat; junior, Jalen Deloach; sophomores, Chase McDuffie, Chris Rhone, Timothy Barnes, and Julian Keitt; and freshmen, Tory Kelly, Kristopher Wallace, Karlos McCullough, and Jazian Gortman; and

Whereas, a few of these players received individual honors over the course of the year, including Tommy Bruner, who was named 2A All State Player of the Year and All Region Player of the Year; and Khalil Robinson, Jalil Robinson, Dallaz Corbitt, and Jalen Deloach, who were all named All Region; and

Whereas, the team has grown and succeeded with the support of the school’s strong administration and coaching team, including Principal Dr. Brian Newsome, Athletic Director Adam Holmes, Head Coach Dion Bethea, Director of Basketball Operations Marc L. Cooper, Assistant Coach Louis Dreher, Assistant Coach Andrew Glover, Assistant Coach Thomas Perez, Team Manager Ryan Marion, and Team Trainer Madison Keim; and

Whereas, this year, Head Coach Dion Bethea was named Region Coach of the Year by the South Carolina High School League; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the pride and recognition that the Gray Collegiate Academy basketball team has brought to its school and community and look forward to a future filled with further accomplishments by the team and its talented athletes. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate the Gray Collegiate Academy basketball team, coaches, and school officials on an outstanding season and honor them for winning the 2019 2A State Basketball Championship.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Gray Collegiate Academy’s basketball team and Head Coach Dion Bethea.

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