**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND CONGRATULATE YOUNG MARTIAL ARTIST BRANDON YOUNG OF SIMPSONVILLE ON CAPTURING THE WORLD CHAMPION TITLE IN HIS DIVISION AT THE 2018 AMERICAN TAEKWONDO ASSOCIATION KARATE WORLD EXPO TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Brandon Young of Simpsonville won the world champion title in his division at the 2018 American Taekwondo Association Karate World Expo Tournament of Champions in Little Rock, Arkansas on July 12‑13, 2018; and

Whereas, the 2018 American Taekwondo Association World Championship drew more than twenty‑one thousand martial arts students, instructors, and fans from nearly twenty countries for specialty training seminars, high‑rank belt testing, and world champion competition; and

Whereas, Brandon, a second‑degree black belt, competed among the top‑ten contenders from around the world in the boys eight and under first, second, and third‑degree ring at the Little Rock Statehouse Convention Center. He competed in eight categories: traditional form, traditional weapon form, sparring, combat weapon sparring, creative form, creative weapon form, xtreme form, and xtreme weapon form; and

Whereas, after a year of hard work and strenuous competition at the local, regional, and national levels, Brandon earned the gold medal and world champion title in xtreme form, with a perfect score of 9.9 from all three judges. He also earned a silver medal in xtreme weapon form and bronze medals in creative form and creative weapon form. Since he began competing, Brandon has captured twenty‑nine state champion titles and nine district championships; and

Whereas, now nine years old, Brandon, who started karate at the age of three, trains at Black Belt Attitude School in Simpsonville under the instruction of Master Daniel Madriaga; and

Whereas, in addition to his achievements in martial arts, Brandon has achieved straight‑A status as a student at Rudolph Gordon Elementary. The Senate takes great pleasure in recognizing such an outstanding young man and looks forward with interest to hearing of his future accomplishments. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor and congratulate young martial artist Brandon Young of Simpsonville on capturing the world champion title in his division at the 2018 American Taekwondo Association Karate World Expo Tournament of Champions.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Brandon Young.

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