**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE ALIYAH BOSTON’S STELLAR PERFORMANCE DURING THE 2022 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP AND TO CONGRATULATE HER ON HER EXCEPTIONAL CAREER.

Whereas, the pride of the entire Palmetto State, the University of South Carolina women’s basketball team once again has shown its championship form in delivering an exciting 2021‑2022 season. Junior forward Aliyah Boston led her team to a thrilling victory over the University of Connecticut to win the team’s second national championship; and

Whereas, born in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands to parents Cleone Boston and Algernon Boston, Aliyah Boston has lived in Worcester, Massachusetts, since she was twelve and she fell in love with basketball at a young age; and

Whereas, during her freshman year at the University of South Carolina, Boston became the program’s first National Freshman of the Year, earning the award from every organization that bestowed it. She was part of the first team in program history to end the season ranked No. 1 in the nation, claiming that spot in both the AP and the USA Today Coaches’ Poll; and

Whereas, during her sophomore year, she picked up National Player of the Year honors from The Athletic and was a unanimous First‑Team All‑American. She also collected her second Lisa Leslie Award in as many seasons, repeated as SEC Defensive Player of the Year and All‑SEC First Team, and was the only player in the country named a finalist for both the Naismith Trophy and Naismith Defensive Player of the Year; and

Whereas, Boston won all four national player of the year awards presented in Minneapolis before the NCAA women’s basketball tournament’s Final Four games were played. On Monday, Boston completed her sweep of the top national honors with her selection as the Wooden Award winner; and

Whereas, in 2022, Boston was named the Greensboro Regional’s and Final Four’s most outstanding player. She won national player of the year honors from Naismith, The Associated Press, the United States Basketball Writers Association Trophy, and the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association. Boston also won the Naismith defensive player of the year honors, and won both titles from the SEC as well; and

Whereas, Boston was a primary leader for South Carolina this season, as it held the nation’s No. 1 spot every week.; and

Whereas, Boston was USC’s leading scorer and rebounder in the national championship season. She averaged 16.8 points and 12.5 rebounds in the 2021‑22 season; and

Whereas, during the NCAA championship game, Boston recorded her thirtieth double‑double of the season with eleven points and sixteen rebounds. Her exceptional performance led her to be named the Final Four’s Most Outstanding Player; and

Whereas, Boston has also represented our country on the international stage, winning five gold medals for Team USA in the 2021 FIBA AmeriCup, the 2019 FIBA U19 World Cup, the 2018 Youth Olympic Games, the 2018 FIBA U17 World Cup, and the 2017 FIBA Americas U16 Championship; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the pride and recognition that Aliyah Boston has brought to her school, her community, and the entire Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize Aliyah Boston’s stellar performance during the 2022 NCAA Championship and congratulate her on her exceptional career.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Aliyah Boston.

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