**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE DESTANNI HENDERSON’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. Senior guard Destanni Henderson made exceptional contributions to her team’s thrilling victory over the University of Connecticut to win the team’s second national championship; and

Whereas, born to parents Joyel James and Derrick Henderson, Destanni Henderson attended Fort Meyers High School, where she helped their basketball team to three state championships in 2016, 2017, and 2018; and

Whereas, during her freshman year, Henderson earned a spot on the SEC All‑Freshman Team after posting 7.5 points on 44.6 percent shooting, including 42.1 percent from 3‑point range in league play; and

Whereas, during her sophomore year, she was part of 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. In SEC games, she tied for fifteenth in league with 3.1 assists per game, and she ranked sixth in assist‑to‑turnover ratio (2.0); and

Whereas, during her junior year, Henderson led the SEC and ranked 36th in the nation with 5.1 assists per game, and she led the SEC in league play as well. She scored nine of her eighteen points against #2 Stanford in the final 2:26 as the Gamecocks pushed the Cardinal to the final shot of the NCAA semifinal game; and

Whereas, in the 2022 NCAA Championship, Henderson became the first player since 2000 to set a career high in scoring in the national championship game, finishing with twenty-six points in the final performance of her collegiate career. She also contributed four assists, two rebounds and a tough defensive effort against 2020‑21 national player of the year Paige Bueckers; and

Whereas, Henderson is a standout performer for Team USA. She was named to the 2021 USA Women's AmeriCup Team and previously, in 2016, Henderson represented the United States in the FIBA U17 World Championship, averaging 7.1 points, 4.4 rebounds and a team‑high 5.0 assists, helping the team to win a bronze medal; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the pride and recognition that Destanni Henderson 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 Destanni Henderson’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 Destanni Henderson.

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