**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR COACH JACKIE HAYES OF DILLON HIGH SCHOOL FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CAREER AS BOTH COACH AND EDUCATOR, TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS COACH, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives celebrates those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to educate the young people of this great State; and

Whereas, prominent in the roll call of such benefactors to our youth is Dillon High School’s retiring football coach, Jackie Hayes, who for nearly three decades has instilled in his student athletes the skills and character traits necessary for success in the classroom, on the field, and in the workplace; and

Whereas, born and raised in Dillon, Jackie Hayes is Dillon football to the core. He quarterbacked the Wildcats, became a Wildcats’ assistant, and then their coach for twenty‑nine seasons. The only years during that time he was not in the Dillon fold was his four years on football scholarship at Catawba College; and

Whereas, during his years as Dillon’s coach, the Wildcats achieved a greatness few others could muster: seven state championships (four in a row, 2012‑15) and fourteen Lower‑State crowns, overall. Further, in twenty‑six of his twenty‑nine years as coach, the Wildcats won ten or more games. Over the decades, they also enjoyed twenty‑nine winning seasons, never missed the playoffs, appeared in fourteen state finals, and helped Coach Hayes compile an impressive 336‑56 record; and

Whereas, this Dillon football legend has served as assistant and head coach of the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas, assistant and head coach of the North‑South Game, head coach of the Junior Shrine Bowl, and assistant coach in the Offense/Defense Game. He has served as president of the South Carolina Athletic Directors Association and member of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee; he ranks thirty‑two nationally in best career winning percentage, according to MaxPreps; and his program has been voted as team of the decade. He has been inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame and South Carolina Football Coaches Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, this humble man is quick to share the credit for his success with his excellent staff, and he praises the school board, school administration, students, and community for their strong support of the school’s football program; and

Whereas, in retiring from coaching, Jackie Hayes is not leaving Dillon School District 4. His many admirers are pleased that he will remain as athletic director at Dillon and Lake View high schools until next summer and that afterwards he will become director of operations for the school district. He also will continue to serve Dillon County as a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives representing House District 55; and

Whereas, grateful for Jackie Hayes’ legacy of consistent commitment and excellence, the House takes great pleasure in wishing him well as he enters retirement from coaching and trusts he will find much enjoyment in the new challenges and opportunities of the days ahead. 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 Coach Jackie Hayes of Dillon High School for his outstanding career as both coach and educator, congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement as coach, and wish him much success in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Jackie Hayes.

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