**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2021 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Hillcrest High School wrestling team of Greenville County took top honors at the state competition held at Dreher High School in Columbia on Saturday, February 20, 2021; and

Whereas, the Hillcrest Rams prevailed over the Summerville Green Wave with a final score of 36‑33 to defend their place as Class AAAAA state champions for the third consecutive year, a first in program history; and

Whereas, in attempting the feat, Hillcrest coaching staff asked the team’s wrestlers for extraordinary performances in anything but ordinary circumstances. In response, those athletes provided remarkable performances, both physically and mentally, by moving out of their natural weight classes and still reigning supreme over their competition; and

Whereas, rallying together as a team, the Rams lifted each other up and over the hurdles placed in front of them. Their dedication to put in the work and their willingness to buy into the strategic plan set before them by Head Coach Anthony Esposito won them the day; and

Whereas, this year Coach Esposito, a long-time assistant coach, took the reins from Robby Bell, who had led the Rams to their previous two championships. His long‑term experience proved invaluable, as he prepared the Rams for the competition ahead. The experience and passion for the program and its culture made it easy for the athletes to transition from one head coach to another. As a result, despite the year’s myriad challenges, he and his coaching staff managed to ready the team to perform at a championship‑caliber level and control the outcome in their favor; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives take great pleasure in recognizing the young athletes of the Hillcrest High School wrestling team and look forward to hearing of their exploits in the coming seasons. 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 the Hillcrest High School wrestling team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and to congratulate them for winning the 2021 South Carolina Class AAAAA State Championship Title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Bryan Skipper and Coach Anthony Esposito of Hillcrest High School.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑