**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE PINEWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2021 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is delighted to learn that the members of the Pinewood Preparatory School girls soccer team clinched the top honors at the state championship title game, held on Saturday, May 8, 2021, at the Cardinal Newman field in Columbia; and

Whereas, Pinewood fans were treated to a brilliant athletic display as the Panthers held off a furious late game rally by the Hammond Skyhawks to finish the game 3‑2, as they captured the South Carolina Independent School Athletic Association Class 3A State Championship title for the first time since winning back‑to‑back titles in 2014‑15; and

Whereas, at the start of the match, freshman Maggie Rollins opened with a goal in the eleventh minute, and senior Riley Cox ripped a shot from just outside the box in the twenty‑ninth minute to give Pinewood a 2‑0 lead at halftime. Unknown at the time, the difference maker in the game was Rollins, who scored a brace in the sixtieth minute with a well struck ball from around twenty‑five yards out; and

Whereas, the Skyhawks, refusing to quit despite the score line, responded with a rally started by a penalty kick in the seventy‑second minute. Just two minutes later, Hammond cut the lead down to a single goal; and

Whereas, harkening back to fundamentals, the Pinewood Panthers continued to defend with great determination. Slowing the game back down, they upset the momentum the Skyhawks had begun to build, and as the final whistle blew, had earned themselves the paramount victory, ending their season 20‑3; and

Whereas, under the expert guidance of Coach Gail Osborne, the Pinewood girls soccer team has competed in the State finals eight times now and has come away with the championship in five of those eight matches; and

Whereas, working hard in Coach Osborne’s program, the Panthers will continue to pursue excellence with hard work, persistence, and dedication. With talented underclassmen and a wealth of newly gained experience, they continue to look forward to the seasons ahead; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Pinewood Preparatory School Panthers have earned for their school and their community and look forward to hearing of their continued accomplishments in 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 the Pinewood Preparatory School girls soccer team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and to congratulate them for winning the 2021 South Carolina Independent School Athletic Association Class 3A State Championship Title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Head of School, Dr. Dan Seiden and Coach Gail Osborne of Pinewood Preparatory School.

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