**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY WOMEN’S SOFTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON, TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2021 ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE (ACC) REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE, AND TO WISH THEM WELL IN THE ACC TOURNAMENT.

Whereas, the Clemson University women’s softball team captured the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Regular Season Championship, on May 9, 2021, after defeating Syracuse University 19‑2 in an explosive performance at Skytop Stadium in Syracuse, New York, in a must‑win game; and

Whereas, in an overwhelming performance against the Orange, the Tigers were led by Alia Logoleo, a redshirt freshman, who erupted at the plate with three homeruns, a double, and ten RBIs. The ten RBIs mark the most runs driven in by any player in a Division I softball game this season; and

Whereas, with this victory, the Tiger’s also earned the No. 1 seed and a first‑round bye in the upcoming ACC Softball Championship, which begins May 12, 2021, in Louisville, Kentucky; and

Whereas, in just their first full season, as their inaugural 2020 season was halted abruptly due to COVID‑19 precautions, the Tigers finished with an astounding 29‑5 ACC record, and reached 40 wins overall; and

Whereas, with dominant performances in the circle by a young pitching staff, and powerhouse performances in the batter’s box, the athletes on the Tiger’s roster have far exceeded the expectations of second‑year Head Coach John Rittman and the fans who watch with eager anticipation as the Clemson University softball team heads into conference tournament play for the first time in program history in as many opportunities; and

Whereas, as a result of their dominant play this season, the Tigers earned three of the five ACC honors this year following a vote of the league’s head coaches. Valerie Cagle was named ACC Player of the Year and ACC Freshman of the Year after she finished the regular season with the league’s second best earned run average (1.15), complemented by the league’s third highest batting average (.420), and sharing the second highest slugging percentage (.819); and

Whereas, Coach Rittman’s performance as head coach was also lauded by his peers as he earned the 2021 Coach of the Year award after he led the Tigers to become the first program in ACC softball history to secure a regular‑season conference championship in a program’s first complete season. Ending the regular season with a program high No. 11 national ranking, the coaches, players, and school officials have much to be proud of over this tremendous season; and

Whereas, the first round of conference tournament play will commence on May 12, 2021, at Don Dobina Field at Ulmer Stadium in Louisville, Kentucky, as Louisville hosts the ACC Tournament. The Tigers will take the field in the quarterfinals, on Thursday, May 13, 2021, against the winner of No. 8 Syracuse and No. 9 Georgia Tech; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that winning the ACC Regular Season Championship brings to Clemson University and wish the Tigers the best of luck in the ACC Tournament and beyond. 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 Clemson University women’s softball team, coaches, and school officials for an extraordinary season, congratulate them for winning the 2021 Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Regular Season Championship title, and wish them well in the ACC tournament.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to President James P. Clements and Head Coach John Rittman.

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