**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE GRAY COLLEGIATE ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM AND COACHES ON THEIR IMPRESSIVE WIN OF THE 2021 CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE AND TO SALUTE THEM ON A FABULOUS SEASON.

Whereas, the air on your face and the ground under your feet feel different when you reach the top of the mountain. The Gray Collegiate Academy War Eagles found that out on Friday, December 3, 2021, when they knocked off Silver Bluff 49‑14 to claim the Class AA State Football Championship; and

Whereas, played at Benedict College’s Charlie W. Johnson Stadium in Columbia, the championship was Gray Collegiate’s first state title in football and first trip to the Class AA finals in the program’s eight‑year history. With its newly minted victory, Gray finished the season with an impressive 14‑1 record; and

Whereas, with justifiable pride, Head Coach Adam Holmes watched his War Eagles raise their first state title trophy; and

Whereas, Gray Collegiate, located in West Columbia, started playing football in 2014 and wasn’t eligible for the playoffs until 2016. Since then, the War Eagles have taken steps each year, winning four region championships and finally getting past powerhouse Abbeville this season in the third round of the playoffs; and

Whereas, one of the key cogs for Gray during the past four years has been senior running back K.Z. Adams, the Mr. Football finalist who became the first player in state history to rush for more than 3,000 yards in a single season. The Georgia State commit didn’t disappoint on the state’s biggest stage, carrying the ball 33 times for 309 yards and scoring three touchdowns to cap his amazing high school career; and

Whereas, quarterback Tre Robinson also played an important role in the championship victory by helping break open a close game in the second quarter with a 60‑yard touchdown run and a 33‑yard touchdown pass to Savion Smith, as did Jakious Hilton, who blocked a punt, and Tory Kelly, who returned a punt for a touchdown in the first half; and

Whereas, Tre Robinson added another rushing touchdown in the second half. The Gray senior quarterback rushed for 138 yards, threw for 34, and had a pair of catches for 16 yards. As a team, Gray rushed for 446 yards; and

Whereas, the members of the Gray Collegiate football team have given their school and community reason to be proud of their accomplishments, and the House takes great pleasure in adding its collective voice to the encomiums flowing in to this outstanding group of young athletes. Go, War Eagles! Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the Gray Collegiate Academy football team and coaches on their impressive win of the 2021 Class AA State Championship title and salute them on a fabulous season.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Brian Newsome and Head Coach Adam Holmes of Gray Collegiate Academy.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑