**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ACADEMIC CHALLENGE TEAMS OF NINETY SIX HIGH SCHOOL AND EDGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SEASONS AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM ON CAPTURING THEIR RESPECTIVE 2022 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Ninety Six High School Academic Challenge team and Edgewood Middle School Academic Challenge team, both in Greenwood County School District 52, came out on top at their respective state competitions, held in Camden on Friday, March 25, 2022; and

Whereas, guidance counselor Sharon Smith, who is also team coach for Ninety Six High School’s Academic Challenge team, led her scholars to defeat Camden High School in the semifinals and Cheraw High in the finals to claim the hardware and the enthusiastic applause of fans. It was an especially sweet win for Ninety Six High School because the Wildcats had won the last state championship, held in 2020, making them back‑to‑back champions this year; and

Whereas, Principal David Schoolfield of Edgewood Middle served as Edgewood’s team coach and enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing his scholars beat out North Central Middle in the semifinals, roll past Latta Middle in the finals, and take home the winner’s trophy; and

Whereas, in competition that demands hours of practice and mental agility, Coach Smith and Coach Schoolfield capitalized on the outstanding support of parents and students, as well as that of faculty and staff; and

Whereas, team members learned lessons that will prove invaluable throughout their lives, not only lessons about hard work and commitment but also about the need to serve their communities and help others succeed; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the pride and recognition that the Ninety Six High School and Edgewood Middle School Academic Challenge winners have brought to their schools and community, and the members look to hear 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 Academic Challenge teams of Ninety Six High School and Edgewood Middle School for their outstanding seasons and congratulate them on capturing their respective 2022 South Carolina State Championship titles.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Darin Rice and Coach Sharon Smith of Ninety Six High School and Principal/Coach David Schoolfield of Edgewood Middle School.

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