**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE NINETY SIX HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2022 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is delighted to learn that the members of the Ninety Six High School wrestling team clinched the top honors at the state competition held at Dreher High School in Columbia on Saturday, February 12, 2022; and

Whereas, the Ninety Six Wildcats prevailed over the Timberland Wolves with a final score of 40‑24, overcoming their top‑ranked competition and finally bringing home their much sought after prize in spectacular fashion; and

Whereas, after coming extremely close to their ultimate goal over the past three years, the Ninety Six coaching staff asked the team’s wrestlers to deliver extraordinary performances that would prove to fans and their competition exactly how hard they had been working to finally achieve their greatest aspiration. In response, the Wildcats athletes provided remarkable performances, both physically and mentally, to claim the championship in unquestionable fashion; and

Whereas, rallying together as a team, the Wildcats looked at a three‑point deficit with only four matches left as just another obstacle in a series of challenges to overcome. They began their ultimate ascent when P.J. Rushton delivered the 182 class match 3‑0 to tie the meet at 24. Max McGee followed with a outstanding 11‑2 match that nearly ended in a pin three separate times, giving the Wildcats a four‑point lead. Juquis Calhoun then pinned his opponent in the second period to extend their lead to 10 points. Timberland then forfeited the 285 class match to finalize their win; and

Whereas, Coach Roy Lemmons has spent the last six years redefining the culture and prestige of wrestling for the Ninety Six Wildcats. Under his guidance and leadership, the athletes have dedicated themselves to continuous self‑improvement, learned invaluable lessons in the pursuit of difficult objectives, grown to rely upon the strength and support of their teammates, and earned their place in the history of Ninety Six athletics; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Ninety Six High School Wildcats 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 Ninety Six High School wrestling team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and to congratulate them for winning the 2022 South Carolina Class AA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Darin Rice and Coach Roy Lemmons of Ninety Six High School.

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