**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CROSS HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE CLASS A DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Cross High School varsity football team of Berkeley County took top honors at the state competition on Friday, November 23, 2012, at Benedict College in Columbia; and

Whereas, to the delight of their fans and the disappointment of their foes, the Cross High School Trojans ran for 354 yards in 36 carries, an average of almost a first down on every carry, against the McCormick High School Chiefs; and

Whereas, junior running back Devontae Shepherd rushed for 166 yards and three touchdowns for the Trojans; junior Dionte Evans added 94 yards rushing and another three touchdowns, one of which was an 89‑yard kickoff return for a touchdown, and he with his twin, junior Diamonte Evans, and teammate Shepherd formed a lethal trio against McCormick; and

Whereas, taking command of the unstoppable offensive line, senior quarterback Branford Halls led the Trojans to victory, finishing the season with an 11‑3 record; and

Whereas, although the school had never even played for a state title before, the Trojans rushed and pounded their way to a 38‑26 victory over the Chiefs through the execution of a running game that devastated their opponents, and they left the field with the first state football trophy in the school's history; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, skill, and determination, Head Coach Shaun Wright, himself a 1995 graduate of Cross High School, and his skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to forge a championship team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the gridiron; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the pride and recognition that the Cross High School varsity football players have brought to their school and their community and 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 Cross High School varsity football team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season, and congratulate them for winning the Class A Division II State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Adrian Busch and Coach Shaun Wright.

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