**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MEMBERS OF THE CHAPIN EAGLES RUGBY CLUB AND THEIR COACHES FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2013 SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Chapin Eagles Rugby Club once again took top honors at the state competition on April 20, 2013, the club’s third‑straight state title; and

Whereas, after playing fourteen games in their competitive season against teams from Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, the Chapin Eagles finished the season undefeated and defeated a strong Greenville Red Raiders team in the playoffs 29‑0 to earn their fourth straight invitation to the championship game; and

Whereas, having already taken two consecutive state victories, the Eagles entered the title game ranked first in the State and thirteenth nationally; and

Whereas, the Eagles squared off against the tough and hard hitting Wando Rugby Club and succeeded in taking possession of the ball one scrum and one ruck after another to take possession of their own triple crown; and

Whereas, the Chapin fans were ecstatic to see the Eagles hoist their third trophy in so many years after defeating Wando in a smashing 24‑0 finale; and

Whereas, one of twenty‑four teams chosen to compete from a field of the most outstanding high school‑aged rugby teams in the nation, the Eagles will head to Elkhart, Indiana, to represent Rugby South Carolina in the 2013 High School National Invitational Championship from May 16 to 18, 2013; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength and agility, Head Coach Neil Richards and his skilled assistants capitalized on their own athletic ability and training to hone a championship team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the paddock; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the distinction that these superb athletes have brought to their community and to the Palmetto State 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 members of the Chapin Eagles Rugby Club and their coaches for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2013 South Carolina High School Rugby Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Neil Richards.

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