**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2018 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Ridge View High School basketball team of Richland County took top honors at the state competition on Saturday, March 3, 2018; and

Whereas, to the roar of their exuberant fans, the Ridge View Blazers defeated a fine, competitive Wilson High School basketball team 74‑70 to give the Blazers their first state trophy in what was their second championship appearance; and

Whereas, the Blazers, who had lost seven games early in the season, four of them by five points or less, had been well prepared to finish a close championship game on top; and.

Whereas, trailing by as much as ten points during the first two quarters, Ridge View captured the lead with barely four minutes of play remaining after a 13‑1 assault against the Tigers to bring the score to 66‑55; and

Whereas, Wilson High struggled to regain the lead and Crosby Harris‑James put up a free throw to give the Blazers a 73‑70 lead with less than a minute to play. A last second scoring attempt by the Tigers was thwarted by a critical block by stellar defender Malcom Wilson, sealing the historic win for Ridge View; and

Whereas, Crosby Harris‑James led Ridge View with 20 points, and Walyn Napper followed with 17 points, ten rebounds, and nine assists. Also scoring in the double digit were Javon Anderson, who scored 16 points, 12 points of which were from 3‑point shots, and Malcolm Wilson, who scored 15 points, 15 rebounds, and seven blocks; and

Whereas, in a close contest where every point proved critical, the outcome might have been different but for the contributions of Patrick Jenkins, who added 4 points to the scoreboard, and Brennen Bynum, who added 2 points; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, agility, and accuracy, Head Coach Yerrick Stoneman and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own athletic ability and training to produce a championship‑caliber team and teach these student-athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the Ridge View basketball players have brought to their school and their community and look to hear of their continued accomplishments in the days to come. 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 Ridge View High School boys varsity basketball team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and congratulate them for winning the 2018 South Carolina Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Brenda Mack‑Foxworth, Principal of Ridge View High School, and Coach Yerrick Stoneman.

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