**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE FORT MILL HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON, AND TO CONGRATULATE THE MUSICIANS, DIRECTORS, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR GARNERING THE 2009 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were pleased to learn that the Fort Mill High School marching band took the highest honors at the state championship competition at Batesburg‑Leesville High School in November 2009; and

Whereas, for the fourth time the Fort Mill band took home the class AAAA championship trophy, and they have had a total of twenty‑two state wins in all the class divisions in which they have competed; and

Whereas, in a display of the unparalleled talent of this band, Fort Mill’s margin of victory of over three points was the largest margin at the state finals since 1978; and

Whereas, since 1975, Fort Mill has maintained a remarkable tally at state competitions: every class of seniors has won at least one state band title by the time they graduated; and

Whereas, this year’s seniors struck up the band to a number of other victories by taking second place in the class AAAAA in 2006, third place in class AAAA in 2007, and second place in class AAAA in 2008, and in 2009 they struck gold with the class AAAA first place award; and

Whereas, in a field that requires demanding hours, rigorous work and tedious practice, Director John Pruitt used his own musical talent and training, to forge a championship band and instill a standard of excellence that will prove invaluable to these musicians in the years ahead; and

Whereas, after marching band seasons end, the students focus on concert bands, where they learn the skills and hone their craft to make a successful jazz band, marching band, and chamber ensemble; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives acknowledge with pride the hard work which has brought such accomplishment to the Fort Mill marching band and honor the pride and recognition which these fine students have brought to their school and their community. 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 Fort Mill High School marching band for an outstanding season, and congratulate the musicians, directors, and school officials for garnering the 2009 Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Fort Mill High School Principal M. Dee Christopher and Band Director John Pruitt.

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