**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE A.C. FLORA HIGH SCHOOL MATH TEAM AND TO CONGRATULATE THE MATHEMATICIANS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON IN MATH COMPETITIONS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to commend the members of the A.C. Flora High School math team for the excellence they exhibited during the math meets in which they participated in the 2008‑2009 school year; and

Whereas, the A.C. Flora Falcons won every major in‑state contest, including the Furman University Wylie Mathematics Tournament, with Ian Taylor taking first place and freshman Elliott Chartock taking fourth place, an impressive feat considering that the last time a South Carolina school won the large school division was when A.C. Flora took top honors in 1995; and

Whereas, the Flora team placed first at five other statewide matches and garnered first place in Georgia at the Armstrong Atlantic State University meet and second place at a competition at Georgia Tech; and

Whereas, beyond the university competitions, the team earned accolades by having seven American Invitational Mathematics Exam qualifiers, and has for three consecutive years had more than any other school in the State, while many schools do not even boast a single qualifier; and

Whereas, Falcons Sean Soni and Ian Taylor qualified for the USA Math Olympiad, with only five hundred students chosen nationwide, which makes the second time A.C. Flora has had the distinction of having two representatives in the last three years; and

Whereas, comprising almost one‑third of South Carolina’s All‑State Math Team, nine students will represent A.C. Flora at the American Regions Mathematics League Competition; and

Whereas, these keen competitors have given countless hours of preparation and practice in a field that many students would eschew for more indulgent pursuits, but they have been handsomely rewarded for their labors; and

Whereas, using his own mathematical expertise and leadership skills, Coach Patrick Rybarczyk, led his math students through the rigors of probability and statistics, analytical geometry, and number theory to produce a championship team; and

Whereas, the A.C. Flora math team has set a standard of excellence that should serve its members in future endeavors and has brought pride and recognition to the community, the school, and this State; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate notes with pleasure the success of the math team from A.C. Flora and expects to hear of continued successes from its members in the years to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the A.C. Flora High School math team and congratulate the mathematicians, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season in math competitions.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Principal Richard McClure and Coach Patrick Rybarczyk.

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