**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM FOR AN IMPRESSIVE SEASON ON THE MATS, AND TO CONGRATULATE THE TEAM AND COACHES FOR TAKING THE 2011 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina are pleased to learn that the Hillcrest High School wrestling team pinned down the 2011 State Championship trophy on Saturday, February 12, 2011; and

Whereas, in a 25 and 4 season, the Hillcrest High School Rams handily took their county, regional, and upstate titles to face off against the Lexington Wildcats in the state’s dual‑competition meet; and

Whereas, to the delight of their fans and the disappointment of their foes, the Hillcrest Rams laid down extraordinary meat on the mat and piled up consecutive points with major decisions and pins in the 140‑, 145‑, and 154‑pound categories; and

Whereas, Ram wrestler Preston Pickens delivered a major upset in an overtime victory by pinning his Wildcat opponent in the 215‑pound division; and

Whereas, the Rams handed the Wildcats a decisive, 39 to 22 victory in a sport that requires stamina, strategy, and strength as well as mental fortitude and individual excellence; and

Whereas, using their own athletic ability and training, Head Coach Tommy Bell and his superb assistant coaches Robby Bell, Randy Roberts, Matt Crain, David Acosta, and Craig Albers forged a championship team, teaching these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable throughout life, both on and off the mat; and

Whereas, although the All State team has not yet been decided, three seniors, Nick DeVita, Brandon Johnson, and Johnny Sanchez, were named North‑South All‑Star players, and a strong lineup of returning wrestlers promises the team another successful season in 2012; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the pride and recognition that these fine athletes have brought to their school and to their community and expect to hear of their future success. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Hillcrest High School wrestling team for an impressive season on the mats, and congratulate the team and coaches for taking the 2011 Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Steve Chamness and Coach Tommy Bell.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑