**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SPARTANBURG METHODIST COLLEGE MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2013 NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NJCAA) REGION 10 TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Spartanburg Methodist College men’s basketball team took top honors at the 2013 NJCAA Region 10 Tournament Championship; and

Whereas, the Spartanburg Methodist Pioneers finished the 2012‑2013 season under the hoops ranked number one in the final NJCAA top twenty‑five national poll with an astonishing overall record of 35‑1; and

Whereas, the men’s basketball team hoisted trophies for both the 2012‑2013 Region 10 Regular Season Championship with a 12‑0 record and the 2013 Region 10 Tournament Championship, the second straight year that the Pioneers have swept both titles; and

Whereas, for the second consecutive year, the Pioneers qualified for the NJCAA National Tournament in Hutchinson, Kansas, and emerged 3‑1 against four top‑ten teams for a spot in the NJCAA Final Four; and

Whereas, to the delight of their fans, Spartanburg Methodist took command of the court against all their opponents in the regular season and in post‑season playoffs placed third in the nation; and

Whereas, the Pioneers’ exceptional third‑year head coach, Jeff Brookman, was named the 2012‑2013 Coach of the Year for both the NJCAA Region and District Ten; and

Whereas, Pioneer standouts for the 2012‑2013 season include Jalen Nesbitt was named Region Ten Defensive Player of the Year and earned a spot on the first team all‑region; Ronell Crockett was selected to the first team all‑region and the NJCAA National Tournament first team; Travis Black earned the NCJAA National Tournament Sportsmanship Award and was named to the second team all‑region; and DaQuan Jeffries was also named to the NJCAA National Tournament first team; and

Whereas, capitalizing on their own athletic ability and training, Coach Brookman and his skilled coaching staff forged a championship team in a sport that demands speed, strength, and agility, teaching these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the hardwood; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that the Spartanburg Methodist College basketball players have brought to their college, their community, and our State and look to hear of the continued accomplishments of these superb athletes in the days ahead. 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 Spartanburg Methodist College men’s basketball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2013 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region 10 Tournament Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Jeff Brookman.

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