**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO SALUTE THE SOUTH AIKEN HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TENNIS TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS ON A SUPERLATIVE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR NETTING THE 2013 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, crowning an unforgettable season, the South Aiken High School boys tennis team defeated Dorman to grab top honors at the 2013 Class AAAA State Championship competition, held at Cayce Fitness & Tennis Center on Saturday, May 11, 2013; and

Whereas, to the delight of their fans and disappointment of their foes, the Aiken Thoroughbreds took home the 2013 title trophy, which represented the team’s first state victory in tennis since 2000; and

Whereas, South Aiken posted a 19‑1 record that included playoff wins over Blythewood, Summerville, Aiken, Lexington, and, finally, Dorman; and

Whereas, displaying talent and mettle, the Thoroughbreds made quick work of their first three playoff opponents, losing only one match out of 18 played. They were too skilled for their rivals to contend with, as the T‑Breds mixed in power serving and blasts from the baseline, as well as deftly placed touch shots that found open spots on the court; and

Whereas, South Aiken’s grittiness came through in both the lower state and state championship matches. In spite of the challenges of facing vaunted opponents, South Aiken players dug deeper and found a way to win critical matches, sometimes being pushed to the limit of third‑set tiebreakers; and

Whereas, an underrated element to the T‑Breds’ success is the tight‑knit relationships between the boys. Tennis is primarily a one‑on‑one game, but the South Aiken players have bonded and created a familial atmosphere; and

Whereas, the ultimate compliment that can be paid to the T‑Breds is the respect shown them by their opponents; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires rigorous training, strength, speed, and agility, Coach Rakesh Jasani used his own athletic skill and knowledge to produce a winning team and instill lessons that will prove invaluable to these fine athletes throughout life, both on and off the court; and

Whereas, appreciative of the great pride and recognition these athletes have brought to their school and community, the House of Representatives congratulates the Thoroughbreds, and the members look with interest toward hearing of their further exploits as tennis champions. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, salute the South Aiken High School boys tennis team, coaches, and school officials on a superlative season and congratulate them for netting the 2013 Class AAAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Bryan Skipper and Coach Rakesh Jasani of South Aiken High School.

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