**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DEANDRE SMITH‑BROWN OF JASPER COUNTY FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR CAPTURING FIRST PLACE IN THE 2016 JASPER COUNTY SENATOR FOR A DAY SPEECH COMPETITION.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn of the exceptional achievements of DeAndre Smith‑Brown of Jasper County, including his recent first‑place finish in the 2016 Jasper County Senator for a Day Speech Competition, sponsored in memory of Senator Clementa C. Pinckney by the Jasper County Legislative Delegation; and

Whereas, born in Jasper County on September 23, 1999, he is a resident of Ridgeland and a sophomore at Ridgeland‑Hardeeville High School; and

Whereas, recognized annually at school on the Principal or Distinguished Honor Roll, DeAndre won the Superintendent’s Writing Contest in 2013 and 2014 for middle and high school students; and

Whereas, at the age of four, he began taking classes at Dunamis Karate. He has earned a second degree black belt and has been a member of the Dunamis Karate Demo Team and Dunamis Karate Swat Team; and

Whereas, a member of the Ridgeland‑Hardeeville High School Marching Band for three years where he is a section leader and band captain, DeAndre plays the alto saxophone, piano, and guitar and is learning to play the snare drum; and

Whereas, in college he plans to major in music and pursue a career as a professional performing musician; and

Whereas, in his winning speech at the annual Senator for a Day contest, DeAndre articulated the problem with school bullying and proposed legislation on the state or federal level that could help to reeducate bullies before they grow into a societal problem outside of school and to punish those who persist; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate takes great pleasure in recognizing DeAndre Smith‑Brown, an outstanding young man of South Carolina, and the members extend to him their best wishes and look with interest to hear of his continued achievements in the days to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor DeAndre Smith‑Brown of Jasper County for his outstanding academic and extracurricular accomplishments and congratulate him for capturing first place in the 2016 Jasper County Senator for a Day Speech Competition.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to DeAndre Smith‑Brown.

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