**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JUSTIN BETHEL, CORNERBACK FOR THE ARIZONA CARDINALS, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CAREER IN PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL AND FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT WORK WITH MANY CELEBRITIES ON CHARITABLE EVENTS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Arizona Cardinals’ cornerback Justin Bethel from Blythewood will return to his hometown with singer Patrick Davis for the ProAm Fore The Cure to benefit the American Cancer Society, complete with music, golf, food, and fun, at Cobblestone Park on Tuesday, July 21, 2015; and

Whereas, a graduate of Blythewood High School, Justin Bethel did not receive much interest from college football programs, and when his high school coach was hired to coach the Presbyterian College Blue Hose, he decided to attend Presbyterian on scholarship, where he graduated with a major in business administration; and

Whereas, the only player from Presbyterian College ever named to the East‑West Shrine Game, he started for the Blue Hose for four years and was named the Big South Defensive Player of the Year in 2011, his senior year; and

Whereas, Justin Bethel caught national attention when teammates posted a YouTube video of him completing a sixty‑inch vertical jump from the flat‑footed position and caught the attention of pro scouts with a strong performance at the East‑West Shrine Game; and

Whereas, the first Presbyterian player invited to the NFL Scouting Combine, he was drafted as the Arizona Cardinals’ first selection in the sixth round of 2012, only the ninth player ever to be drafted from Presbyterian and the first one since the 1969 NFL Draft; and

Whereas, the first Presbyterian College player ever to be selected to a Pro Bowl, he was named to the 2014 Pro Bowl as a special teamer and was again selected for the 2015 Pro Bowl; and

Whereas, Mr. Bethel scored his first career NFL touchdown when he returned a blocked field goal for eighty‑two yards in the fourth quarter against the Chicago Bears in week sixteen of the 2012 season. It was Arizona’s first blocked field goal returned for a touchdown since 2009 and just the fifth dating back to 1960; and

Whereas, in 2013, he posted twenty‑one special‑teams’ tackles, blocked two field goals, downed four punts inside the opponent’s ten‑yard line, and recovered a muffed kickoff. In his first two seasons, he played in all thirty‑two games and totaled thirty‑five special‑teams’ tackles, setting his best record yet in 2014, with a career‑high twenty‑five tackles and another blocked field goal; and

Whereas, with deep concern for the needs of others, Justin Bethel has participated in many charitable events, including the 2015 Patrick Peterson All Star Classic with his Cardinal teammate, and he has formed a foundation called Beating All Odds to benefit the American Cancer Society; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that Justin Bethel has brought to the Palmetto State and look forward to his ProAm Fore The Cure in Blythewood to benefit the American Cancer Society. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Justin Bethel, cornerback for the Arizona Cardinals, for his outstanding career in professional football and for his significant work with many celebrities on charitable events.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Arizona Cardinal Justin Bethel.

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