**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BOO MAJOR, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA HEAD EQUESTRIAN COACH, ON BEING NAMED 2015 COACH OF THE YEAR BY THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is delighted to learn that Boo Major, University of South Carolina head equestrian coach, has been named Coach of the Year by the National Collegiate Equestrian Association (NCEA); and

Whereas, for Coach Major, high achievement is no new phenomenon; rather, it’s the second year in a row she has earned the award, this year’s honor coming after the Gamecocks won the 2015 National Equestrian Championship; and

Whereas, Coach Major is quick to share the credit for her success. As she has said, “I share this award with my assistant coaches, Ruth Sorrel and Hillary Dobbs, who did a tremendous job coaching our girls and preparing them to compete at a high level. I’m also proud to share this with our school president, Dr. Pastides, and Athletic Director Ray Tanner, and all of our support staff at the University of South Carolina who do so much work behind the scenes to support our program.”; and

Whereas, under Boo Major’s leadership, the Gamecocks went 12‑5 this season on the road to their third national title. South Carolina was the only team this year to beat all three conference champions (Fresno State, Baylor, and Georgia) during the regular season, and in Waco, Texas, they also beat the three conference champions to win the national championship. After receiving a first‑round bye, Carolina defeated United Equestrian Conference champion Fresno State, 12‑4, in the quarterfinals. In the semifinals, the third‑seeded Gamecocks upset second‑seeded and Big 12 champion Baylor, 10‑6. In the national championship meet on April 18, 2015, South Carolina upset No. 1 seed and SEC champion Georgia, 10‑6; and

Whereas, further, Coach Major led her team to a program‑best accomplishment this season: four riders earned NCEA First Team All‑America honors. The Gamecocks also led the nation with ten Beval Saddlery Academic First Team selections, and Carolina led all SEC programs on the La Hacienda Academic Honor Roll, with twenty‑one riders earning spots; and

Whereas, among her other achievements, Boo Major, now with eighteen completed seasons at USC, has led the Gamecocks to their three national championships (2005, 2007, 2015), three hunt seat national championships (2005, 2006, 2007), and two Southeastern Conference championships (2013, 2014). In 2014, she became the first USC coach to lead a Gamecock team to back‑to‑back SEC titles. She also was named SEC Coach of the Year in 2013 and 2014; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives, appreciative of Boo Major’s gifts as both equestrian coach and exemplar to her team, take great pleasure in recognizing her on this, her latest accolade, the 2015 National Collegiate Equestrian Association Coach of the Year award. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Boo Major, University of South Carolina head equestrian coach, on being named 2015 Coach of the Year by the National Collegiate Equestrian Association.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Coach Boo Major.

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