**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CALHOUN ACADEMY VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR CAPTURING THE 2016 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Calhoun Academy baseball team of St. Matthews claimed the team’s second consecutive state title on Thursday, May 19, 2016; and

Whereas, amid sounds of victory from the players and their devoted fans, Calhoun Academy defeated Hilton Head Preparatory School 3‑2 at Laurence Manning Academy in Manning in the third game of a best‑out‑of‑three series; and

Whereas, adding to the exhilaration of winning the state baseball title, many of the Calhoun baseball players were part of the 2016 football team’s success in garnering the state championship; and

Whereas, without posting a single hit in game three, the Calhoun Cavaliers secured the state title with vigilant defense and pitching by allowing only three hits; and

Whereas, Cavalier Blake Huddleston pitched one out into the sixth inning with seven strikeouts and teammate Will Spiers came on to pitch in relief and secured the title; and

Whereas, at the start of the second inning, Calhoun’s Chipper Brown and Blake Huddleston were hit by pitches, and Christopher Phillips loaded the bases with Cavaliers when his bunt caused the Dolphin pitcher some trouble. Lawton Wright drew a walk, which took Chipper Brown across home plate, and Fuller Pricket grounded into the Dolphins’ second error of the inning that hoisted the Cavaliers to three runs; and

Whereas, the Calhoun defense stayed alert, preventing Hilton Head from making the scoreboard with a run until the fifth inning, and the Dolphin’s second and last run of the series came in the sixth; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, strategy, and quickness, Calhoun Academy topped a winning season of 19‑7 with the team’s second state championship in a row; and

Whereas, Head Coach Bill Spiers and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own athletic ability and training to produce a championship team and drill lessons into these athletes that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the diamond; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the pride and recognition that the Calhoun baseball players have brought to their school and their community, and the members look to hear of their future success in the days ahead. 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 the Calhoun Academy varsity baseball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2016 South Carolina Independent School Association Class AA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Headmaster Mims L. Taylor and Coach Bill Spiers.

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