**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE LOWER RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2017 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that the members of the Lower Richland High School boys basketball team of Richland County took top honors at the state competition on March 4, 2017, at Colonial Life Arena; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their many fans, the Diamond Hornets clinched their first state title since 1999 with a final score of 51‑42 against Wren High School; and

Whereas, Lower Richland had a slow start in the first half, with Wren going on a 15‑0 run, bringing the score to 24‑6 in the second quarter; and

Whereas, the Diamond Hornets quickly answered Wren’s offense with an 11‑2 run. Ja’Cor Nelson and Tevaughn Higgins each hit 3‑pointers as Lower Richland cut the deficit to 26‑17 at halftime. Clyde Trapp heated up in the second half to finish with 20 points, 16 of these scored in the fourth quarter, to put the Diamond Hornets on top for good; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands agility and skill, Coach Caleb Gaither capitalized on his own athletic ability and training to forge a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the court; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the pride and recognition that the young men of the Lower Richland High School basketball team have brought to their school and community and look forward to hearing of their continued accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate by this resolution, recognize and honor the Lower Richland High School boys basketball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2017 Class AAAA State Championship Title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Rose Pelzer and Coach Caleb Gaither.

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