**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE LEGION COLLEGIATE ACADEMY SOFTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THEIR FIRST CLASS AA SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is delighted to learn that the Legion Collegiate Academy softball team clinched top honors by defeating Andrew Jackson High School in the 2021 Class AA softball state championship series; and

Whereas, Legion Collegiate Academy fans were treated to a brilliant display of the Lancers’ skills as they swept the Andrew Jackson High School Volunteers in back‑to‑back games, winning the state championship title for the first time in program history; and

Whereas, exemplifying a diligent work ethic and the determination necessary to overcome a myriad of obstacles, the Lancers had a perfect 12‑0 record on the season and went on to unseat the defending upper state champion in a three game series before finally securing their ultimate victory in the state championship; and

Whereas, despite being newly introduced into the South Carolina High School League as a member institution with a packed playing schedule, the Lancers showed profound confidence as they encountered and prevailed over rival teams; and

Whereas, playing together as a united team to obtain their goals, the roster of the 2021 Legion Collegiate Academy softball team included Lexi Wilkinson, Reagan Smith, Mercedes Evans, Taylor Watson, Trinity Gibson, Joei Owens, Malloree Sexton, Gabriella Wilson, Morgan Langley, Aleah Roy, Riley Burton, Gracelyn Teer, Rayna Blackwell, and Leslie Griffin. Together, they showed tremendous dedication, sportsmanship, and passion throughout the season; and

Whereas, in addition to securing the state championship, the Lancers softball team was further honored as each member of the team was also named as a National Fastpitch Coaches Association All‑American Scholar Athlete. In order to obtain this recognition, an athlete must achieve a 3.5 or better GPA on a 4.0 scale; and

Whereas, led by coaches Mark Cooke, Maddie Antoine, and Olivia Caulder, the players on the Lancers softball team learned important lessons in professionalism and respect; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Legion Collegiate Academy Lancers have earned for their school and their community and look forward to hearing of their continued accomplishments in the seasons to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives recognize and honor the Legion Collegiate Academy softball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and to congratulate them for winning their first Class AA softball state championship.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. TK Kennedy, principal of Legion Collegiate Academy, and Mark Cooke, head coach of the Legion Collegiate Academy softball team.

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