**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR COACH JOE QUIGLEY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CAREER AS COACH, EDUCATOR, AND ADMINISTRATOR, TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina Senate celebrates those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to educate the young people of this great State. Prominent in the roll call of such benefactors to our youth is North Myrtle Beach High School’s retiring athletic director, Joe Quigley, who for forty years has instilled in his student athletes the skills and character traits necessary for success in the classroom, on the court and field, and in the workplace and who, for the last fifteen years, has guided the Chiefs’ athletics program with a sure hand; and

Whereas, since he was hired prior to the 2006‑2007 school year, the Chiefs have won state championships in volleyball and finished as state runners‑up in wrestling and football. All of the school’s varsity teams have won at least one region title in that span, while nearly every program has qualified for the playoffs again and again; and

Whereas, in addition, more than one hundred athletes have gone on to college sports, and over eighty percent of the school’s senior student‑athletes have posted GPAs of 3.5 or above since 2019; and

Whereas, capital improvements also have been soaring. Thanks to contributions from both the district and private donors, the school has made significant upgrades to its weight room and playing surfaces. Most visibly, a much‑needed drainage project and state‑of‑the‑art LED lighting system were added to the football field, to be followed by a rubberized track this spring; and

Whereas, from top to bottom, the program looks a whole lot different from what it did prior to Joe Quigley’s arrival. The tremendous growth the school has enjoyed in its athletics program under Coach Quigley has been in great measure due to his ability to get the right coaches in place. Another big factor has been the player‑coach handbook he put out in his first year. It addressed his expectations, and not following it wasn’t an option; and

Whereas, over the years, Joe Quigley has been heavily involved in both local and statewide affairs in his field. He has been influential as a region chair, counseled younger athletic directors at other schools, and felt no issue being vocal during the ongoing conversations related to COVID‑19. In June, he pushed the South Carolina High School League to use stronger language in its return‑to‑play protocols; and

Whereas, for his exceptional service, Joe Quigley has been granted various honors. He was named South Carolina’s Athletic Director of the Year in 2016 by the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association and in 2017 by the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association (SCAAA). He has been named his region’s Athletic Director of the Year seven times (and likely will gain another such award this year), has been a member of the SCHSL Executive Board and Athletic Executive Committee, and has served as president of the SCAAA; and

Whereas, grateful for Joe Quigley’s legacy of consistent commitment and excellence, the Senate is pleased to wish this dedicated athletic director well as he enters retirement on June 30 of this year, and the members extend best wishes for much satisfaction in the more leisurely pace of 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 Coach Joe Quigley of North Myrtle Beach High School for his outstanding career as coach, educator, and administrator, congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement as athletic director, and wish him much success in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Joe Quigley.

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