**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND COMMEND THE ATHLETES OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY FOR COMPLETING A SUCCESSFUL SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEIR COACHES, SCHOOL OFFICIALS, AND FOOTBALL PLAYERS FOR CAPTURING THE 2009 MID‑EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to recognize the successes of the South Carolina State University Bulldogs on the gridiron in the 2009 season and the outstanding Mid‑Eastern Athletic Conference title that they have garnered for two consecutive years; and

Whereas, on Saturday, November 14, 2009, the South Carolina State football team rushed and pounded its way to defeat Baltimore’s Morgan State University 37‑13 and retain the Mid‑Eastern Athletic Conference championship; and

Whereas, Oliver Tré Young accounted for 313 all‑purpose yards out of the Bulldogs’ 448 total yardage and completed two touchdowns against the Morgan State Bears while teammate Malcolm Long threw four touchdown passes; and

Whereas, on November 21, 2009, senior running back Will Ford completed 156 yards on 23 carries to break the Mid‑Eastern Athletic Conference rushing record when the Bulldogs met the North Carolina A & T University Aggies; and

Whereas, after a perfect 2009 league season of 8 and 0, and an overall 10 and 2 record, the Bulldogs have remained undefeated in the league for the second straight year and have nineteen consecutive league wins; and

Whereas, the South Carolina State Bulldogs were ranked eighth in the Sports Network’s Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) College Football Poll at the end of the 2009 season, and the FCS Coaches and “Any Given Saturday” ranked them seventh while they captured the number one spot in the Sheridan Broadcasting Network (SBN) Top 10 Poll; and

Whereas, Coach Buddy Pough and his fine staff employed their own athletic abilities and leadership skills to forge a championship team and foster a standard of excellence in these athletes that will prove invaluable to them throughout life; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly take pride in applauding the accomplishments of the South Carolina State Bulldogs and the recognition they have brought to their university and to our great State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, honor and commend the athletes of the South Carolina State University football team of Orangeburg County for completing a successful season and congratulate their coaches, school officials, and football players for capturing the 2009 Mid‑Eastern Athletic Conference Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the President of South Carolina State University, Dr. George E. Cooper, and Head Coach Buddy Pough.

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