**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE DABO SWINNEY, HEAD COACH OF THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM, ON BEING NAMED 2011 BOBBY DODD NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Dabo Swinney, head coach of the Clemson University football team, was named winner of the Bobby Dodd Award as 2011 Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) National Coach of the Year; and

Whereas, on December 31, 2011, Coach Swinney was announced as the unanimous winner of the award, which recognizes “the highest ideals on and off the field”; and

Whereas, the award came as the climax to an outstanding season in which Coach Swinney took the Tigers to ten wins, including a victory over Virginia Tech in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Championship game, plus a trip to the Discover Orange Bowl. It was Clemson’s first ACC championship as well as its first 10‑win season in twenty years and its first bid to the Orange Bowl since 1981; and

Whereas, Dabo Swinney, the first Clemson football coach to win a national coach of the year honor since 1981, was raised in Pelham, Alabama, and attended the University of Alabama, where he joined the Crimson Tide football program as a walk‑on wide receiver in 1989. He earned a scholarship and lettered on three teams (1990‑1992), including the Crimson Tide’s 1992 national championship team; and

Whereas, in 1993, he received his degree in commerce and business administration, as well as a master’s degree in business administration in 1995; and

Whereas, after his playing days were over, Dabo Swinney served three years at Alabama as a graduate assistant coach. From 1996 to 2001, he was a full‑time assistant coach at Alabama in charge of wide receivers and tight ends. He then spent the next two years in private business in Alabama; and

Whereas, in 2003, he joined the Clemson staff as a wide receiver coach, taking over the position as recruiting coordinator. In 2006, he was named fifth best recruiter in the country by *Rivals.com*; and

Whereas, since Coach Swinney joined the staff at Clemson, the Tigers have been to bowls every year, finished in the top 25 three times, and won at least eight games four times. They also have won ten games over top‑25 teams, including Florida State, Miami (Florida), and Tennessee; and

Whereas, grateful for his excellence and dedication as both coach and life mentor, the members of the Senate take great pleasure in saluting Dabo Swinney of Clemson University on receiving the coveted Bobby Dodd Award. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Dabo Swinney, head coach of the Clemson University football team, on being named 2011 Bobby Dodd National Coach of the Year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Dabo Swinney.

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