**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND ADMINISTRATION OF ST. JAMES HIGH SCHOOL OF HORRY COUNTY ON RECEIVING THE COVETED 2016 PALMETTO’S FINEST AWARD.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly notes with pleasure that St. James High School of the Horry County School District was chosen for the 2016 Palmetto’s Finest award on Tuesday, March 15, 2016; and

Whereas, sponsored by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators, this prestigious awards program annually honors two elementary schools, a middle school, and a high school, all of which maintain the best innovative, effective educational programs; and

Whereas, each of the finalists goes through an intensive application process that includes self‑evaluation, peer review and on‑site examinations, and is evaluated on student achievement, instructional programs, professional learning communities, and school culture; and

Whereas, this is the second year that St. James has been in the running for the Palmetto’s Finest award, having been nominated for the 2015 honor; and

Whereas, one of two finalists for the award among South Carolina schools, St. James High has demonstrated consistently to all that steadfast excellence pays off, and the achievements of its students are proof of the dedicated work of its faculty, staff, and administration; and

Whereas, home to over 1600 students, the St. James High School faculty, staff, and administration have created a diverse and mutually respectful community with the common goal of empowering students to become lifelong learners prepared to excel in an evolving global society; and

Whereas, the St. James “Sharks” deserve to be proud of this win of one of the highest state honors. When a school “gives everything it’s got, all the time,” it is fitting that investment of time, talent, and energy be recognized; and

Whereas, the General Assembly is proud to affirm St. James High School as an example of all that is wholesome and positive in public education in South Carolina, and the members join St. James High School’s many friends in congratulating the school on this recent achievement. 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, congratulate the students, faculty, staff, and administration of St. James High School of Horry County on receiving the coveted 2016 Palmetto’s Finest award.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Principal Vann Pennell of St. James High School.

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