**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE INDIAN LAND HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY WRESTLING TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR A REMARKABLE SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Indian Land wrestling team of Lancaster County garnered the championship trophy at the state tournament held at Airport High School in Cayce on Saturday, February 9, 2019; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their exuberant fans, the Indian Land Warriors built a substantial early lead and coasted past Gilbert High School, one match at a time to take the title by a 44‑12 margin, Indian Land’s first state title for any boys’ team in the school’s ninety‑two‑year history; and

Whereas, after losing the first match in the 182‑pound division, Indian Land seized the next eight matches handily, with five decisions, one major decision, and two pins, to claim an unassailable 31‑6 advantage; and

Whereas, by the time the Warriors posted the 145‑pound match in the win column, the score stood at 37‑9 because they had put their shoulders into many of the close matches to emerge with wins; and

Whereas, Head Coach Leon Boulware came to the wrestling program at Indian Land three years ago and began building his staff and honing his wrestlers into state champions at the individual level, and win they did; and

Whereas, eleven Warriors won their matches to earn the team’s title: Alex Murphy’s 7‑5 overtime decision at 195 pounds, Teddy Yarborough’s 9‑1 major decision at 132 pounds, Solomon Cortez at 120, Weston Nguyen at 126, Raul Neil at 220, Xavier Dreese at 152, Markeith Drakeford’s 10‑0 major decision at 170, two‑time individual state champion and team captain Austin Ross’s highly contested 6‑5 match at 113, Erick Neil’s heavyweight pin, Max Yegge’s pin at 106 pounds, and Grant Witherspoon’s first‑period pin at 145; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands mental fortitude and personal excellence, Coach Boulware and his skilled coaching staff capitalized on their own experience and passion to forge a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable to them for many years to come; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the pride and recognition that the Indian Land grapplers have brought to their school and their community, and the members look to hear of their continued achievements in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Indian Land High School varsity wrestling team, coaches, and school officials for a remarkable season and congratulate them for winning the 2019 South Carolina Class AAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal David Shamble and Coach Leon Boulware.

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