**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE THOMAS HEYWARD ACADEMY VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2020 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CLASS 1A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the Thomas Heyward Academy varsity football team of Jasper County rose to the occasion on Saturday, November 21, 2020, to claim top honors for the third consecutive time; and

Whereas, Thomas Heyward fans were treated to a brilliant display of athletic prowess as the Rebels defeated the Lee Academy Cavaliers 46‑14, capturing the South Carolina Independent School Association Class 1A State Championship title for the third consecutive time; and

Whereas, as the Rebels took the field, they exhibited all the top qualities that desire, hard work, and experience can bring to a top team. Using these advantages, the Rebels took an early lead over the Cavaliers and then never relinquished control over the score board. The final result of the championship game is indicative of their season long efforts, their fighting spirit, and their willingness to outlast and outwork their opponents; and

Whereas, in a sport that requires a powerful work ethic and the diligence to continually strive for greatness, Head Coach Nic Shuford has done an excellent job developing the Thomas Heyward varsity football team into a formidable program with explosive performances, as well as a team of individuals who will continue on to make their community a better place. Together with his skilled coaching staff, he continues to successfully prepare the Rebels for the rigorous demands that are required of a championship‑caliber team, year after year, regardless of opponent or circumstance; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Thomas Heyward Rebels have earned for their school and their community and look forward to hearing of their continued accomplishments 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 Thomas Heyward Academy varsity football team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2020 South Carolina Independent School Association Class 1A State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Thomas Heyward Academy Headmaster Benjamin Herod and Head Coach Nic Shuford.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑