**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE NATION FORD HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND AND BAND DIRECTORS ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO APPLAUD THEM ON CAPTURING THE 2021 SOUTH CAROLINA BAND DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Whereas, no strangers to capturing the top prize, the members of the Nation Ford High School marching band showed their championship form once again and earned the pleasure of hoisting the school’s ninth trophy as winners of the South Carolina Band Directors Association state crown in their class; and

Whereas, since the school’s opening in 2007, the hard‑to‑beat marching Falcons have brought home three state titles in 3A and six in 4A, their present win being 4A. Having last won in 2019, they proved this year that they had not lost their competitive edge from having the 2020 marching band season canceled, due to the COVID‑19 pandemic; and

Whereas, with the band’s 2021 show, “Ascension,” performed at the state 4A competition at Columbia’s Spring Valley High School on Saturday, October 30, 2021, Nation Ford bested its nearest competitor, T.L. Hanna, by more than a point and received its highest marks for its group and overall visual performance; and

Whereas, Director of Bands Ray Linkous, along with Associate Director of Bands Andrew Krieger and the rest of Director Linkous’s exceptional staff, made sure the players did not forget this important principle: The necessary hard work that leads to a state trophy must be done all over again every year if you want to keep winning. These young Falcon musicians did not let their directors down; and

Whereas, the House, looking forward to hearing of more proud moments for the Nation Ford High School marching band, delights in paying tribute to this consistently excellent musical ensemble for taking home the 2021 state title. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, celebrate the Nation Ford High School marching band and band directors on an outstanding season and applaud them on capturing the 2021 South Carolina Band Directors Association Class AAAA State Championship.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Christopher Chandler and Director of Bands Ray Linkous of Nation Ford High School.

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