**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE D. W. DANIEL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2021 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the D. W. Daniel High School football team of Pickens County took home the state title from the state competition held at Benedict College in Columbia on Friday, December 3, 2021; and

Whereas, to the delight of their exuberant fans, the Daniel High Lions defeated a fine, competitive Camden Bulldogs team for the second consecutive year by a score of 45‑20; and

Whereas, the seventh overall state football title for the Lions, Daniel celebrated a 14‑0 season, winning each game by at least 21 points and matched its longest winning streak of 24 games; and

Whereas, one of twenty‑one seniors on the Daniel team and a South Carolina Mr. Football candidate, quarterback Trent Pearman finished the championship game with 27 of 36 completions for 272 yards and 4 touchdowns; and

Whereas, although Camden held Daniel to a field goal on its first drive of the game, the Lions answered the Bulldogs’ subsequent drive for a touchdown and roared back with two consecutive touchdowns, followed by a 14‑yard touchdown pass early in the second quarter; and

Whereas, Daniel ended the first half with a 45‑yard interception return to lead Camden 24‑7; and

Whereas, early in the second half, Boston Miller completed a 56‑yard touchdown run for the Bulldogs to reduce the Lions’ lead to 24‑14, but 3 touchdowns for Daniel in the fourth quarter was too much for Camden to overcome in the state contest; and

Whereas, junior Misun Kelley finished the night with eleven receptions for 112 yards and 2 touchdowns for the Lions, and he added a 71‑yard touchdown on his only rushing attempt. Teammate Jaylen Brown‑Wallace finished with 8 receptions and 111 yards for 2 touchdowns; and

Whereas, senior cornerback Gabe Smith led the Daniel defense with seven solo tackles and one assist. Junior defensive end Myquam Geer added three solo tackles and four assists, along with the two total sacks of the defense for a loss of seven yards; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, expertise, and determination, Head Coach Jeff Fruster and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own athletic ability and training to forge a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the gridiron; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the pride and recognition that the Daniel High football players have brought to their school and their community and look to hear 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 D. W. Daniel High School football team, coaches, and school officials for an extraordinary season and congratulate them for winning the 2021 South Carolina Class AAA State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Shannon Sharkey and Coach Jeff Fruster.

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