**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ST. JOHN’S CHRISTIAN ACADEMY VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2021 SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the members of the St. John’s Christian Academy varsity baseball team of Berkeley County took the state title at the state series held at Holly Hill Academy on Friday, May 14, 2021; and

Whereas, to the cheers of their exuberant fans, the St. John’s Christian Academy Cavaliers defeated Dorchester Academy 13‑11 in the third game of the best two of three to take the first state championship for the Cavalier program since 1989; and

Whereas, St. John’s took the lead 2‑1 at the end of the first inning and furthered the lead 3‑1 with a run in the second inning. By the third inning, the Cavaliers had doubled their score with another three runs, and a run in the fifth inning gave them a 7‑1 advantage; and

Whereas, St John’s almost doubled the score again with another six runs in the sixth inning, for a 13‑1 lead, but, the Dorchester Raiders found their stride in the bottom of the sixth and posted seven runs in for a 13‑8 score; and

Whereas, Dorchester added three more runs in the seventh inning, but could not drive the final three runners home; and

Whereas, Cavalier Jackson Blackburn went 3‑for‑5 at the plate, with an RBI and two runs scored; Joshua Legnard went 3‑for‑5, with a double, two RBI, and two runs scored. Brayden Lail went 1‑for‑3 with four RBI and a run scored. Ryan Pierce had two hits, along with Travone Johnson, one of which was a home run, and Bryce Taylor had two hits with one of his a double; and

Whereas, Tally Strock pitched six innings for the Cavalier win, and teammates Conner Lockliear, a third of an inning, and Ryan Pearce, two‑thirds of an inning; and

Whereas, finishing the season with a 18‑6 record, the Cavaliers had seven hitters who batted over .300, and the pitching team achieved an earned‑run average of 1.70; and

Whereas, the rest of the St. John’s 2020‑2021 championship roster included Nick Jimenez, Grayson Early, Clark Moraux, Johnny Biering, Matthew Glover, Shane Rusch, Hayden Redders, Kyle Kinard, Jaden Bradley, Dillon Law, and KC Kacarka; and

Whereas, in a sport that demands strength, strategy, and quickness, Head Coach Stewart Pierce and his skilled coaching staff maximized their own athletic ability and training to hone a championship‑caliber team and teach these athletes lessons that will prove invaluable through life both on and off the diamond; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the pride and recognition that the St. John’s baseball players have brought to their school and their community, and the members look to follow 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 St. John’s Christian Academy varsity baseball team, coaches, and school officials for an outstanding season and congratulate them for winning the 2021 South Carolina Independent School Association Class A State Championship title.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Eric Denton, Headmaster, and Coach Stewart Pierce.

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