**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BOBBY R. YOUNG OF RICHLAND COUNTY ON THE DISTINCTION OF HAVING THE COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM NAMED IN HIS HONOR AND TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR AND COACH.

Whereas, on Friday, January 28, 2022, an important building on the Columbia High School campus will bear a new name: the Bobby R. Young Gymnasium, named in honor of Richland County resident Bobby Young, who in 2020 retired after thirty‑eight years of distinguished service as a coach and teacher; and

Whereas, Bobby Young, Columbia High’s girls varsity head basketball coach from 1982 until his official retirement, made history as the longest‑serving such coach in South Carolina and saw his players establish a winning record of 641‑220; and

Whereas, under his leadership, the Columbia High Lady Capitals played in the state championship games eight times and captured Class AA state basketball championships in 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2004. As an assistant track coach, he also coached the state women’s individual track and field shot put champion in 2015, 2016, and 2018; and

Whereas, further, he has served as a coach for the United States Youth Games, South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association North Carolina vs. South Carolina All‑Star Games, South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association All‑Star Games, and Amateur Athletic Union; and

Whereas, in 2004, he was named the Richland School District One Coach of the Year, and he is a four‑time recipient of *The State* newspaper’s All‑Area Coach of the Year Award. Coach Young also was named the 2012 Girls Coach of the Year by *High School Sports Report*. In recognition of his fine sports record, in 2010 Coach Young was inducted into the Allen University Athletic Hall of Fame as a baseball player and coach, and he was a 2011 inductee into the South Carolina Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame. In 2017, he was inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame, one of the state’s highest coaching honors; and

Whereas, Coach Young also has successfully coached in other sports, including cross country, girls junior varsity basketball, boys junior varsity and varsity football, and both boys and girls track and field; and

Whereas, in 1992, Coach Young established the “Women’s Hooperama,” an event designed to provide female basketball programs and players an arena to showcase their talents. From 1992 to 2000, the annual Hooperama attracted top female basketball talent and teams from four counties and drew the nation’s top Division I and Division II talent scouts; and

Whereas, in 2002, the Young and the Relentless Scholarship was established and named in Mr. Young’s honor and in honor of his wife, both the Youngs being Columbia High teachers. Annually, the Young Family Foundation offers a $1,000 scholarship to a deserving Columbia High senior. Since 2002, twenty scholarships have been awarded; and

Whereas, for his commitment to South Carolina’s youth and his excellence in service to them, Coach Bobby Young is worthy of high praise. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Bobby R. Young of Richland County on the distinction of having the Columbia High School Gymnasium named in his honor and commend him for his many years of dedicated service as an educator and coach.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Bobby R. Young.

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