

House Resolution 1007

By: Representatives Gaines of the 120th, Wiedower of the 121st, Frye of the 122nd, and Rhodes of the 124th

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating the University of Georgia Women's Soccer team for an outstanding 2023
2 season; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the University of Georgia Women's Soccer team has established and maintained
4 a proud tradition of excellence with equal emphases on character and academics; and

5 WHEREAS, this superlative team has completed another triumphant season of soccer
6 competition by posting an outstanding record of 13 wins, four losses, and six ties and a No.
7 13 national ranking, the highest among all SEC programs and the highest in school history;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, excellent play, superior teamwork, and extraordinary resilience made this team
10 a spectacular one to observe throughout the season, and as a fitting finale to its remarkable
11 2023 conference campaign, the team captured the first SEC East Division and SEC Soccer
12 Tournament championships in program history; and

13 WHEREAS, the team advanced to the NCAA Tournament Third Round for only the second
14 time in program history, earning NCAA Tournament victories over Liberty and Iowa,

15 securing a program-record five postseason victories between the SEC and NCAA
16 Tournaments; and

17 WHEREAS, the phenomenal performance of the team is a clear indication of the outstanding
18 athletic ability, dedication, hard work, and unity of purpose and spirit of each member of the
19 team; its superb offensive and defensive talents; and the astute direction of Head Coach
20 Keidane McAlpine who surpassed 200 career victories following Georgia's win at Missouri
21 on September 24 and the program surpassed 300 victories with the SEC Tournament
22 championship win; and

23 WHEREAS, this all-star team included: graduate midfielder Croix Bethune, who became the
24 fifth All-American in program history, earning a place on the United Soccer Coaches
25 All-America Second Team, and was also named to the All-Southeast Region Team, to the
26 SEC All-Tournament Team, and as SEC Tournament MVP; redshirt freshman midfielder
27 Summer Denigan, who was named SEC Co-Freshman of the Year and was the only freshman
28 named to the All-Southeast Region Team; redshirt senior midfielder Nicole Vernis, senior
29 defender Madison Haugen, junior defender Jessie Dunn, and sophomore defender Cate
30 Hardin, all of whom were named to College Sports Communicators Academic All-District
31 Team; and graduate Mallie McKenzie, who set a new program record for most career
32 appearances, finishing her Bulldog career with 98 matches played; and

33 WHEREAS, Croix Bethune was further selected third overall by Washington Spirit in the
34 NWSL Draft, the highest draft pick in program history; and

35 WHEREAS, this magnificent team performed with precision during the season and earned
36 its well-deserved reputation for high standards of athletic achievement, the quality of its play,
37 and the stiff competition it presented to its opponents.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
39 the members of this body congratulate the University of Georgia Women's Soccer team for
40 an outstanding season and extend best wishes for their continued success.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
42 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
43 University of Georgia Women's Soccer team.