

## Senate Resolution 566

By: Senators Walker III of the 20th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Robertson of the 29th, Summers of the 13th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating the Perry High School Panthers football team for winning the 2023 GHSA  
2 Class 4A State Football Championship; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Perry High School Panthers football team has established and maintained  
4 a proud tradition of excellence with equal emphases on character and academics; and

5 WHEREAS, the team brought special recognition to its school by winning the 2023 GHSA  
6 Class 4A State Football Championship against the formidable Stockbridge Tigers with a final  
7 score of 38 to 27; and

8 WHEREAS, excellent play, superior teamwork, and extraordinary resilience made this team  
9 a spectacular one to observe throughout the season, and as a fitting finale to its remarkable  
10 2023 campaign, the team captured the first state football championship in program history;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, although the Panthers fell behind early, the pivotal play of the match was  
13 Gesha'nn Heard's recovery of a nearly fumbled kickoff, which he followed with a 54-yard  
14 dash to the end zone for the score; and

15 WHEREAS, junior running back Ahmad Gordon's exceptional performance, including three  
16 touchdowns, significantly contributed to the team's victory and ensured that they would not  
17 lose their lead; and

18 WHEREAS, the phenomenal performance of the team is a clear indication of the outstanding  
19 athletic ability, dedication, hard work, and unity of purpose and spirit of each member of the  
20 team; its superb offensive and defensive talents; and the astute direction of Head Coach  
21 Kevin Smith; and

22 WHEREAS, the team has received additional support from the Perry High School  
23 administration and faculty as well as the citizens of the Perry community; and

24 WHEREAS, this magnificent team earned its well-deserved reputation for excellence by  
25 performing with courage and precision over months of training and competition, it is  
26 abundantly proper to call them champions.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
28 congratulate the Perry High School Panthers football team for winning the 2023 GHSA Class  
29 4A State Football Championship and extend best wishes for their continued success.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
31 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Perry High  
32 School Panthers football team.