

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 15

By Terry

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Oakland High School Patriots football team on winning the 2020 TSSAA Division I Class 6A State Football Championship.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors for this State; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland High School football team achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2020 season, winning the coveted Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I Class 6A State Football Championship; and

WHEREAS, state championships are achieved only through hard work, dedication, and the ability to work together as a team and excel with a cooperative spirit; the Patriots exhibited each of these rare qualities during their championship season; and

WHEREAS, posting the first undefeated season in school history, Oakland High School captured the state championship with a resounding 56-33 win over Brentwood High School in the BlueCross Bowl in Cookeville on the campus of Tennessee Technological University on December 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS, displaying the tenacious defense and juggernaut offense that Oakland fans have come to know and love, the Patriots were led by Jordan James, who rushed for 226 yards and six touchdowns, and Antonio Patterson, who scored two touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, during their truly historic season, the 2020 Oakland Patriots averaged more than 41 points a game for the season, winning every game by a double-digit margin of victory, and set a TSSAA record for most points scored in a half in a championship game with 42 points; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 state championship is the fifth in school history, as the Oakland Patriots won the Class 3A crown in 1984, the Class 5A title in 1998 and 2008, and their first Class 6A title in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the football players of Oakland High School epitomize all that is good in today's student athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success on the field while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the field; they inspired their fellow students and united the entire community during their triumphant run through the 2020 season; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship football season but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Patriots of Oakland High School for serving as exemplars of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the players, coaching staff, team support staff, administrators, cheerleaders, and fans of the Oakland High School Patriots football team on winning the 2020 TSSAA Division I Class 6A State Football Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.