

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 257

By Travis

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Bledsoe County High School table tennis team upon winning the Tennessee State High School Table Tennis Team Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those student athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as true sportsmen of whom all can be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Bledsoe County High School (BCHS) table tennis team have proven themselves to be the ablest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, the school has counted among its members some of the most talented young athletes Tennessee has produced; and

WHEREAS, under the astute leadership of Volunteer Coach Dr. Becky Deakins Ridley and Assistant Coach Kim Langston, the team propelled itself to the Tennessee State High School Table Tennis Team Championship; and

WHEREAS, the tournament, which took place on March 12, 2013, at the Phoenix High School gym in Crossville, included team members from six schools who competed in more than two hundred matches throughout the evening in round-robin, single elimination, and doubles tournament brackets; and

WHEREAS, the BCHS team earned first place by scoring the most team match points in the round-robin state tournament and, in the team doubles tournament, BCHS also earned first place with wins over five other area schools; and

WHEREAS, this championship team was led by Al Roberts, Jared Gardenhire, Larry Wilson, Jerret Smith, Sean Denn, Alec Norton, Brett Boring, Lee Cox, Destiny Smith, Brent Smith, Derek Hedgecoth, and Jordan Mitchem; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bill Neely and Mr. Joseph Newgarden were instrumental in helping BCHS being their program with the donation of robotic equipment, paddles, and regulation-size tables from Newgy Industries; and

WHEREAS, the BCHS table tennis team has displayed the tenacity, camaraderie, and skill befitting one of the State's finest athletic teams; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the BCHS table tennis team, not only for the team's championship win but for the players' superior sportsmanship and the joy they have brought to their fellow students and the people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the members of the Bledsoe County High School table tennis team for their heralded success and extend to them our best wishes for future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.