

SENATE RESOLUTION 176

By Oliver

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Pearl-Cohn High School Firebirds, TSSAA Class 4A state football champions.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body are 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 Pearl-Cohn High School Firebirds achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2023 season, winning the coveted Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Class 4A State Football Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Pearl-Cohn Firebirds vanquished every opponent as they recorded an undefeated season on their way to the BlueCross Bowl championship game on December 2, 2023, at Finley Stadium in Chattanooga, where they beat Upperman in a hard-fought battle by a score of 36-27; and

WHEREAS, the victory saw Pearl-Cohn High School claim its third football state championship in school history and its first since 1997, and the team ended the season with a perfect record of 15-0; and

WHEREAS, throughout the playoffs, the Firebirds played with heart and determination in each round, defeating Lexington 42-2, Station Camp 41-16, Marshall County 41-21, and Haywood County 48-20 on their way to the championship game; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Pearl-Cohn Firebirds enjoyed the services of an outstanding coaching staff led by Head Coach Tony Brunetti and assistant coaches Andre Davis, Jimmy Ferrell, Koreyon Jordan, Eric Knight, Tramont Lawless, Kenneth Miller, Rico Page, Jeremiah

Smelley, and Brandon Woods, who instilled in these exceptional young men a commitment to excellence in all endeavors and encouraged maximum effort on the football field; 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 Firebirds exhibited each of these rare qualities during their championship season; and

WHEREAS, the football players of Pearl-Cohn High School epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes, 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 2023 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 football players of Pearl-Cohn High School for serving as exemplars of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate the players, coaching staff, team support staff, administrators, cheerleaders, and fans of the Pearl-Cohn High School Firebirds football team on winning the 2023 TSSAA Class 4A 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.