

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 121

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To commend Coach Gabe Fertitta and staff and the Catholic High School Bears upon winning the 2017 Allstate Sugar Bowl Louisiana High School Athletic Association Division I football state championship.

WHEREAS, on Saturday, December 9, 2017, fourth seed Catholic High School defeated second seed John Curtis 20-14 and earned the LHSAA Division I state football title at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans in the Allstate Sugar Bowl Prep, its second championship in three years; and

WHEREAS, the victory was the perfect end to cap off a four-game playoff run that began with victories over traditional Catholic school powers Archbishop Shaw and St. Augustine, followed by wins over former high school national champions Evangel and John Curtis, which have together won thirty-nine state titles since 1975; and

WHEREAS, the state championship came under the leadership and guidance of first-year Head Coach Gabe Fertitta; Coach Fertitta's 2017 squad had to overcome substantial losses from the 2016 team, including eleven players who had graduated to college football, a starting quarterback, its entire defensive staff, its 2015 state championship winning kicker, and its legendary head coach, Dale Weiner; and

WHEREAS, the Catholic High School Bears were not considered contenders to the crown at the beginning of the 2017 season, but the young men and staff continued the hard work and winning ways of their predecessors and ultimately clinched the 2017 Division I title; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the championship the Bears have earned; to commend the athletes for their work ethic and dedication, particularly at the most difficult level of competition; and to express sincere and heartfelt congratulations to the coaches,

team members, and management staff on winning the 2017 Division I title and for the sportsmanship demonstrated while achieving the highest state football honor possible for Catholic High School.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the athletes, coaches, and managers of the Catholic High School football team on their 2017 Allstate Sugar Bowl Louisiana High School Athletic Association Division I football state championship and does hereby acknowledge the pride and honor they have brought to their school and community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Coach Gabe Fertitta.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES