

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY SENATOR PRICE

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Ascension Catholic High School Bulldogs baseball team on winning the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Division IV state championship.

WHEREAS, the Ascension Catholic High School Bulldogs defeated the top-seeded St. John High School Eagles by a score of 4-3 to become the Division IV champions in the Louisiana High School Athletic Association State Tournament on Friday, May 11, 2018, at McMurry Park in Sulphur, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, during the 2017 season, the Bulldogs reached the state semifinals but were unable to secure the victory, thereby coining the motto "#unfinished business" for the 2018 season; and

WHEREAS, the Bulldogs met their district rival, the St. John Eagles, on two previous occasions during the 2018 season and in their third game, the Bulldogs battled back from a 2-0 deficit to earn a thrilling 4-3 victory and capture their third state title in school history; and

WHEREAS, the deficit lasted until the top of the sixth inning and heading into the frame, they had just one hit; and

WHEREAS, Mason Zeringue then led off with a single and eventually scored on a double by Charlie Gianelloni who later scored on a passed ball to tie the game; and

WHEREAS, to end the inning, the Bulldogs took their first lead on an RBI single by Tre' Medine, and in the top of the seventh inning, Parker Hales led off with a double and was joined on base by William Dunn, who walked; and

WHEREAS, Dunn eventually scored on an RBI single by Rodney Blanchard that gave the Bulldogs a 4-3 advantage; and

WHEREAS, with the lead, Charlie Gianelloni closed out the game from the mound,

pitching one and two-third innings of shutout baseball; and

WHEREAS, he was also 1-3 with an RBI from the plate which led to his being named the Most Outstanding Player in the title game in recognition of his outstanding hitting and closing the game on the mound; and

WHEREAS, prior to Charlie Gianelloni closing the game on the mound, Rodney Blanchard pitched an impressive five and a third innings, only giving up six hits; and

WHEREAS, Brock Acosta was the only player in the game with multiple hits, going 2-3 and assisting in the Bulldogs' first state title since 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Bulldogs ended the season with an overall record of 29-9 and a district record of 8-2; and

WHEREAS, they had an eighteen game winning streak to finish the regular season, earning them the number three seed in the state tournament; and

WHEREAS, the members of the talented Bulldogs squad, Nicholis Milano, Nicholas LeJeune, Kevin Gautreau, Charlie Gianelloni, Michael "Tre" Medine, Mason Zeringue, Andrew Landry, John Mire, John Broussard, William Dunn, Parker Hales, Rodney Blanchard, Alex Hebert, Brock Acosta, Jai Williams, Owen Theriot, Jacob Dunn, Sam Mire, Hunter Walker, Matthew Lefleur, Joel Landry, Jacob Sagona, Brennan Simoneaux, Brayden Duhon, and Connor Shally, merit recognition and congratulations for their extraordinary performance and their competitive spirit throughout the season and the tournament; and

WHEREAS, the members of the team performed at the highest level of athletic excellence throughout the tournament and each of them deserves recognition for their vital contribution to the winning effort; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Todd Landry and assistant coaches, Larry Dunn, Rick Bolotte, Chris Schexnayder, and Drey Trosclair, instilled an ethic of winning and demonstrated the kind of leadership and motivational skills needed to produce winners both on and off the field; and

WHEREAS, the Ascension Catholic High School Bulldogs baseball team is recognized for the well-deserved accolades earned throughout the season and showcasing the extraordinary athletic abilities they have displayed, particularly at the most difficult level of high school competition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere congratulations to the Ascension Catholic High School Bulldogs baseball team and their coaches for winning the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Division IV state championship and for the sportsmanship shown while achieving such high honors for themselves, for Ascension Catholic High School, the city of Donaldsonville, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the principal of Ascension Catholic High School.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE