

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY SENATOR CORTEZ AND REPRESENTATIVE COUSSAN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend St. Thomas More High School Cougars boys soccer team and Head Coach Casey Friend on their second consecutive Division II State Championship.

WHEREAS, top-seeded St. Thomas More High School boys soccer team completed another sensational season, defending its 2016 crown title to earn the Division II 2017 state championship title for the second year in a row after defeating the number three seeded Alexandria High School, by a score of two to one, to win another thrilling state championship game at Tad Gormley Stadium in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the state championship win was the culmination of an unforgettable season of eighteen wins, four losses, and five ties, and a district record of 4-0-0; and

WHEREAS, Coach Casey Friend was named "Coach of the Year" and Miles Hesterly, Will Labar, and Myles Lloyd were named the best coaching staff in the state; and

WHEREAS, the coaching staff and all the members of the 2016-2017 team performed at a superb level of excellence throughout the entire season and into the playoffs, and each of these great athletes and staff deserves recognition for their vital contribution to the winning effort of the state championship title; and

WHEREAS, this distinguished team of champions includes Blake St. Cyr, Bowen Schneider, Cade Broussard, Christian Fontenot, senior Christian Qawami, senior Connor Latiolais, senior Cullen Russo, David Morton, Ethan Fuselier, Ethan Trahan, senior Evan Wimberley, Fischer Gaudet, Grant Ortego, senior and captain Grant Rodrigue, senior Grant Patterson, senior and captain Jack Meijer, Joey Wallis, John Lanie, Jonathan Fisher, senior and captain Joshua Ardoin, Julian Alansari, Kade Theunissen, Landon Sellers, senior Michael Fatjo, Mitchell Savoie, Mitchell Thornton, Patrick Maloney, senior and captain Parker Pelletier, and senior Will Hoerner; and

WHEREAS, the St. Thomas More High School Cougars boys soccer team is composed of numerous talented players who garnered extraordinary division distinctions

such as sophomore Landon Sellers being named the State Championship Most Valuable Player and First Team All State for goalkeeper, leading his team with fifty-one saves, and senior Jack Meijer as the Division II Defensive Most Valuable Player and First Team All State for defense, two other young men were chosen as first team all state, senior Grant Rodrigue for midfield, and freshman Julian Alansari for forward who also led his team with nineteen goals scored, and senior Evan Wimberley led his team with eleven assists; and

WHEREAS, all the St. Thomas More High School Cougars boys soccer team contributed to the unsurpassed team unity and trust that propelled this winning team on to earning the 2017 state championship title; and

WHEREAS, the amazing accomplishments of the team could not have been achieved without the guidance and skill of Head Coach Casey Friend, and the best assistant coaching staff in the state, Miles Hesterly, Will Labar, and Myles Lloyd along with the supportive faculty, boosters, and family members who all contributed their time and effort to the success of the school's superior soccer program; and

WHEREAS, the alumni and fans of St. Thomas More High School recognize the immense pride and distinguished honor the soccer team brings to its school, community, and state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the St. Thomas More High School boys soccer team upon winning the 2017 Division II State Championship and does hereby extend best wishes to the players, coaches, and all who are involved in this fine athletics program as they celebrate their exceptional season and prepare for continued growth and success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to St. Thomas More High School Cougars boys soccer team Head Coach Casey Friend.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES