

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 694

By Holsclaw

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Elizabethton High School football team upon winning the 2019 TSSAA Division I, Class 4A state 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 we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 2019 Elizabethton High School Cyclones football team have proven themselves to be the ablest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, this past December at Tucker Stadium on the campus of Tennessee Technological University, the Elizabethton High School Cyclones completed a perfect 15-0 season, defeating Springfield High School by a score of 30-6 to win the TSSAA Division I, Class 4A BlueCross Bowl; and

WHEREAS, playing with tenacity and intensity, the Elizabethton Cyclones won the team's first state championship since 1938 and set a school record with fifteen wins; the state title is the first ever for a school from District 1 and the first for Elizabethton under the TSSAA's modern statewide playoff system; and

WHEREAS, entering the post-season as District 1 champions, the Cyclones soundly defeated East Ridge and Sullivan South in the first two rounds of the playoffs and then crushed Greeneville for a second time in the season to advance to the state semifinals, where they trounced Nolensville 34-12; and

WHEREAS, facing the Springfield Yellow Jackets in the BlueCross Bowl, Cyclone quarterback Bryson Rollins completed 11 of 12 passes for one touchdown and rushed for 153 yards and one touchdown on his way to being named Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, the Elizabethton Cyclones enjoy the leadership and football knowledge of Head Coach Shawn Witten and his exceptional staff, who inspired every player to give his best on the gridiron and in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this successful football season, Coach Witten was named the 2019 Tennessee Titans High School Coach of the Year and awarded a \$2,000 grant from the Titans Foundation to benefit the Elizabethton football program and a trip to Orlando, Florida, to the 2020 Pro Bowl; and

WHEREAS, the Elizabethton High School football 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 2019 Elizabethton High School football team, not only for the team's championship win but also 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 ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Head Coach Shawn Witten and the Elizabethton High School Cyclones football team for their heralded victory as 2019 TSSAA Division I, Class 4A State Champions and extend to them our best wishes for every 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.