

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7011 of the First Extraordinary Session

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Head Coach Wes Caldwell and the 2019 Greenback High School Cherokees baseball team upon winning the TSSAA Class A State Baseball Tournament.

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 champions of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 2019 Greenback High School Cherokees baseball team have proven themselves to be the fiercest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, the Cherokees achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2019 season, as they captured the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's (TSSAA) Class A State Championship; and

WHEREAS, posting a tremendous season record of 33-10, the Greenback Cherokees won in spectacularly dramatic fashion in the championship game, as they snatched victory from the jaws of defeat to claim the school's first state baseball championship; and

WHEREAS, the Cherokees' road to the championship game started victoriously with a win over Lake County, 6-2, before falling to Summertown, 3-6, to drop into the losers bracket in the double-elimination tournament; and

WHEREAS, defeating Lake County for the second time to advance, Greenback faced Summertown again and won back-to-back games, 8-2 and 5-4, to avenge the earlier loss and earn the right to fight for the state championship crown; and

WHEREAS, in a tight pitchers battle, the Greenback Cherokees felt all hope was lost as Trinity Christian loaded the bases with two outs and hit what seemed to be a walk-off game-

winning single to right center—but the runner never touched first base and was called out, ending the inning; and

WHEREAS, seizing the opportunity, the Cherokees struck in the top of the ninth as Greenback senior Michael Severance laid down a squeeze bunt that sent fellow Greenback senior Seth Riddle racing home to score the go-ahead run; and

WHEREAS, the Greenback Cherokees baseball team, which was formed less than five years ago, quickly recorded a one-two-three inning in the bottom of the ninth to proudly claim the title of TSSAA Class A State Champions; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Greenback High School baseball team epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while exhibiting the highest degree of character in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the members of the Greenback High School baseball team for their outstanding performance and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Head Coach Wes Caldwell and the 2019 Greenback High School Cherokees baseball team on winning the TSSAA Class A State Championship and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.