

House Resolution 473

By: Representative Gasaway of the 28th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Congratulating the Banks County Leopards Wrestling Team; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Banks County Leopards Wrestling Team accomplished their goal of
3 winning the first ever state championship in Banks County High School history; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the Banks County Leopards' tremendous record this season includes a first at
5 D. Marlow Duals, first at King of the Mountains, first at Morgan County, first at Tommy
6 Warren Duals, first at Maynard Duals (Silver Bracket), first at four AAA Area Duals, first
7 at AAA State Duals, sixth at Sham Slam, and first at AAA Area Traditionals; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the Leopards entered the state tournament with a 24-1 record, having captured
9 their first ever Area Duals Championship the week before with a very narrow 34-33 victory
10 over Oconee County; and
- 11 WHEREAS, this driven, focused, and united team remained calm as they pursued their
12 ultimate goal, the state championship; and
- 13 WHEREAS, in the first round, the Leopards defeated Pierce County 67-6; Chris McCrackin,
14 Dylan Suttles, Taylor Wood, Mason Patton, Francisco Hurtado, Tony Fultz, Cody Beezley,
15 Tristan Guthrie, Wes Faulkner, Hayden Dilbeck, Eli Smallwood, Matt Dilbeck, and Josh
16 Bello all picked up wins in the first round; and
- 17 WHEREAS, in the semi-finals, the Leopards defeated Sonoraville 44-22 with key wins from
18 Matt Dilbeck, Logan Free, Chris McCrackin, Taylor Wood, Mason Patton, Francisco
19 Hurtado, Tony Fultz, Wes Faulkner, Hayden Dilbeck, and Eli Smallwood; and
- 20 WHEREAS, in the finals, the Banks County Leopards faced traditional wrestling
21 powerhouse, Woodward Academy, in an extremely intense match; and

22 WHEREAS, heading into the final four matches, the Leopards were losing 27-16, yet
23 Coaches Sam Baxter, Tyson Baxter, Mark Crook, Adam Nichols, and Kasey Hanley let the
24 team know they needed only three straight pins to secure a win; and

25 WHEREAS, Wes Faulkner got the first pin, Eli Smallwood followed up with a second pin,
26 and Matt Dilbeck accomplished a third pin, changing the score to 34-27 with only one match
27 left and allowing the team to forfeit at the 220 lb weight class and still emerge victorious; and

28 WHEREAS, the state championship victory makes Banks County Leopards' final dual meet
29 record for the 2012-2013 season 30-1; and

30 WHEREAS, as this magnificent team earned its well-deserved reputation for excellence by
31 performing with courage and precision over months of training and competition, it is
32 abundantly proper to call them champions.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body join in congratulating the Banks County Leopards on their first
35 ever state championship victory and extend to them their most sincere best wishes for future
36 success.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Banks County High School.