

House Resolution 162

By: Representatives Harrell of the 106th, Hutchinson of the 107th, Thomas of the 56th, Gardner of the 57th, Cannon of the 58th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Atlanta United FC for winning the 2018 MLS Cup; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on December 8, 2018, Atlanta United FC defeated the Portland Timbers 2-0 to
4 win the 2018 MLS Cup; and

5 WHEREAS, Atlanta United FC Forward Josef Martinez was named MLS League MVP,
6 scored the first goal in the championship match, and shattered the record for the most goals
7 scored in a single season, with 31 goals; and

8 WHEREAS, Martinez's individual season was one filled with many accolades, as he also
9 won the MLS Golden Boot, MLS All-Star Game MVP, and MLS Cup MVP, making him the
10 first MLS player to win league MVP, All-Star MVP, and MLS Cup MVP in the same season;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Atlanta United FC became the second team in MLS history to score 70 or more
13 goals in consecutive seasons; and

14 WHEREAS, along with Josef Martinez's premier season, coach Gerardo "Tata" Martino won
15 the MLS Coach of the Year, leading the team to an overall record of 21-7-6, an 11-2-4 record
16 at home, and the MLS Cup Championship; and

17 WHEREAS, in only its second season, Arthur Blank's innovative vision and strategy for
18 bringing an MLS team to Atlanta has led to Atlanta United FC being named Major League
19 Soccer's most valuable team; and

20 WHEREAS, Mercedes-Benz Stadium has provided Atlanta United FC a premier venue for
21 all its home games, providing its fans and visitors a unique experience that includes

22 cost-effective dining, cutting-edge technology with their innovative Halo Board, and a world
23 class fan atmosphere; and

24 WHEREAS, Atlanta United FC has excelled on the field but also off the field because of the
25 strong leadership of club president, Darren Eales, who was named the Doug Hamilton
26 Executive of the Year in 2017 and has assembled a team that provides excitement and
27 exhilaration every time they step on the pitch; and

28 WHEREAS, Atlanta United FC team continues to set records for total regular season
29 attendance, highest average attendance, and regular season single match attendance; on July
30 15, 2018, Atlanta United FC set the regular season attendance record with 72,243 attendees
31 during a 1-1 tie against the Seattle Sounders FC; Atlanta United fans set the record for
32 highest attendance at an MLS Cup Championship game in history, 73,019; and Atlanta
33 United FC supporters continue to earn their Number 17 jersey number given to all Atlanta
34 United Fans; and

35 WHEREAS, the 2018 Atlanta United FC team spurred enthusiasm and captured the spirit of
36 Atlanta and its fans throughout the MLS Cup week and the whole 2018 season.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
38 the members of this body recognize and commend Atlanta United FC on its successful 2018
39 season and for winning the MLS cup.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
41 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Atlanta
42 United FC.