

By: Paddie

H.R. No. 299

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Carthage High School football team furthered its  
2 record of success by winning the University Interscholastic League  
3 4A Division 1 state championship on December 16, 2016, at AT&T  
4 Stadium in Arlington; and

5           WHEREAS, During their postseason run, the Bulldogs  
6 dispatched formidable opponents from Silsbee, Houston North  
7 Forest, Henderson, Stafford, and China Spring High Schools to  
8 advance to the finals against Wylie High School of Abilene; and

9           WHEREAS, In the title game, Carthage overcame an early 14-0  
10 deficit with two touchdowns and a field goal to enter halftime tied  
11 at 17; both offenses then fell silent until the fourth quarter, when  
12 the Bulldogs notched a pair of rushing touchdowns to win by a final  
13 score of 31-17 and clinch their fifth championship trophy in the  
14 past nine years; the squad was led by junior running back Keaontay  
15 Ingram, who was named the Offensive Most Valuable Player after  
16 rushing for 180 yards and two touchdowns, and senior defensive  
17 tackle Austin Russell, who was selected as the Defensive MVP after  
18 recovering two fumbles; and

19           WHEREAS, Carthage's success was the result of a true team  
20 effort, with each member of the roster providing valuable  
21 contributions throughout the course of the season; moreover, the  
22 Bulldogs drew on the expertise and inspirational leadership of head  
23 coach Scott Surratt and his staff; and

24           WHEREAS, Winning a state championship is the culmination of

1 countless hours of hard work and an unwavering commitment to  
2 excellence, and the Carthage players and their many supporters in  
3 the community will treasure the memory of this outstanding  
4 accomplishment for years to come; now, therefore, be it

5         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby congratulate the Carthage High School football  
7 team on winning the 2016 UIL 4A Division 1 state championship and  
8 extend to the team's players, coaches, and staff sincere best  
9 wishes for the future; and, be it further

10         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
12 House of Representatives.