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By:  White H.R. No. 84

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Newton High School football team once again proved itself among the finest in Texas by winning the 2018 University Interscholastic League 3A Division 2 state championship on December 20 at AT&T Stadium in Arlington; and

WHEREAS, Entering the postseason with an unblemished record, the Eagles continued their stellar play with dominant victories over Pewitt, Grand Saline, Troup, and Daingerfield High Schools, winning each game by more than 50 points; in the semifinals, they faced a tougher test against East Bernard; the two teams battled through four quarters before Newton scored the winning touchdown with just 13 seconds remaining to secure a 21-14 win and advance to the title contest; and

WHEREAS, With the state crown on the line, Newton faced off against Canadian High School; the Eagles took a commanding 21-0 lead into halftime on a pair of touchdown runs from Darwin Barlow and an interception return for a score by Kevin Watson; the Canadian squad mounted a furious second-half rally, cutting the deficit to five with a chance for a game-winning touchdown in the final minute, but a goal-line interception by Dominique Seastrunk ended the threat; when the final seconds ticked off the clock, Newton recorded a 21-16 triumph and collected its second consecutive state championship and its fifth overall; moreover, under the guidance of head coach W. T. Johnston, the Eagles have established a remarkable 30-0 record over the past two seasons; and

WHEREAS, Winning back-to-back state championships is a rare accomplishment and the culmination of countless hours of hard work, and the talented student-athletes of the Newton Eagles football team are a source of tremendous pride to their school and their many supporters in the local community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate the Newton High School football team on winning the 2018 UIL 3A Division 2 state championship and extend to the team's players, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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