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By:  Murr H.R. No. 406

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Mason High School football team reached the pinnacle of success by winning the 2018 University Interscholastic League 2A Division 1 state championship on December 20 at AT&T Stadium in Arlington; and

WHEREAS, During the regular season, Mason reeled off 10 straight victories and claimed the District 14 title as well as the No. 1 spot in the 2A state rankings; the Punchers rode a wave of momentum into the playoffs and advanced through the bracket with wins over Milano, Weimar, Wallis Brazos, Refugio, and San Augustine High Schools; and

WHEREAS, In a battle between unbeaten teams, the Punchers faced off against New Deal High School in the state final; Mason struck quickly, going up 7-0 early in the first quarter, and it never relinquished the lead the rest of the way; the Punchers held their opponent scoreless over the last three quarters and triumphed by a final score of 44-6; with the title game win, the team closed out the year with a perfect record of 16 wins and no losses and brought home the championship trophy for the second time in school history; and

WHEREAS, Jake Cockerham and Klay Klaerner led Mason's rushing attack in the final with two touchdowns apiece; on the other side of the ball, Slone Stultz contributed a team-high eight tackles for a stout Punchers defense that allowed only 16 touchdowns all season long; ably guided by head coach Kade Burns and his assistants, the Punchers received valuable contributions from each member of the roster over the course of the 2018 campaign; and

WHEREAS, Winning a state championship represents the culmination of countless hours of hard work and an unwavering commitment to excellence, and these talented student-athletes will treasure the memory of this accomplishment for the rest of their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate the Mason High School Punchers on winning the 2018 UIL 2A Division 1 state football 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.