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By:  Kacal H.R. No. 1688

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Mart High School football team once again proved itself one of the finest in Texas by winning the 2018 University Interscholastic League 2A Division 2 state championship; and

WHEREAS, The defending champs in their class, the Panthers won 9 of 10 regular-season contests and claimed the District 11 title; Mart continued to excel throughout the playoffs, defeating Saratoga West Hardin, Simms Bowie, Grapeland, Muenster, and Falls City High Schools to earn its 11th trip to the state championship contest; and

WHEREAS, Competing in front of a crowd of more than 7,000 fans at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Mart faced off against Gruver High School in the December 19 finale; the Panthers unleashed a devastating ground assault, rushing for nine touchdowns in the first half alone; by intermission, the team had already set the record for the most points scored in a 2A state championship game, and it ultimately rang up a total of 76 to achieve a commanding victory; when the final seconds ticked off the clock, Mart collected its seventh title overall and celebrated the first back-to-back crowns in program history; and

WHEREAS, The Panthers were led by Offensive Most Valuable Player Tyrek Horne, who ran for seven touchdowns and 291 yards to set a pair of 2A title game records; on the other side of the ball, Defensive MVP Jacob Ybarra paced Mart with 6.5 tackles, two interceptions, and four pass breakups; ably guided by head coach Kevin Hoffman and his assistants, Mart 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 Mart High School football team on winning the 2018 UIL 2A 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.