

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 711

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Carthage High School football team continued its
2 tradition of excellence by winning the 2024 University
3 Interscholastic League 4A Division 2 state championship; and

4 WHEREAS, Demonstrating tremendous resolve after dropping the
5 first game of the season, the Bulldogs reeled off nine consecutive
6 victories en route to claiming the district crown; the squad then
7 carried its momentum into the playoffs, besting Longview Spring
8 Hill, Krum, Texarkana Pleasant Grove, and Van High Schools to reach
9 the state semifinals; there, Carthage earned an 11th all-time trip
10 to the state title game with a decisive 45-17 win over Brock High
11 School; and

12 WHEREAS, With the championship on the line, Carthage took the
13 field against Waco La Vega High School on December 20 at AT&T
14 Stadium in Arlington; taking command early, the Bulldogs built a
15 14-7 lead at halftime; they continued to excel on both sides of the
16 ball down the stretch, posting two more touchdowns and securing the
17 outcome on the strength of their fierce defense, which racked up a
18 total of seven sacks and 15 tackles for loss; triumphing by the
19 final score of 28-14, the Bulldogs collected their 10th state
20 championship in program history, ending their storybook year with
21 an outstanding 15-1 record; and

22 WHEREAS, Offensive Most Valuable Player Kelwin Edwards
23 rushed for 188 yards and two touchdowns, and Defensive MVP Daquives
24 Beck contributed 10 tackles and a sack; Carthage also received

1 valuable contributions throughout the campaign from the other
2 members of the roster: Klayton Ingram, Blake Marion, Tylin
3 Williams, Makkarius Cooper, Jaydon Lewis, Trey Gant, Junior
4 Henderson, Jett Surratt, Cale Preston, Cade Ross, Carson Crawford,
5 Colt Lawhorn, Andrew Gwinn, Kason Burchette, William Jacks, Jacob
6 Dixon, Bryston Price, Kaidon Graves, Leo Brown, Jaden Jeffress,
7 Benny Smith, Maure Sheppard, Jakelius Roquemore, Zee Pearley, Ethen
8 Portley, Grayson Bullock, JD Edwards, Christian Monreal, Brian
9 Brumit, Zach Dunlap, Jax Thomas, Zay Owens, Lucas McDaniel, Roston
10 Reid, Jace Harris, Jesus Lopez, Gabrin Hooker, Colben Foster,
11 Kingston Jones, Braxton Ritter, Andric Kindle, Seth Wedgeworth, Leo
12 Medrano, Gael Olvera, Kash Courtney, Latravion Roberts, James
13 Morrow, Jeremiah Earl, Alex Aviles, Braden Dieter, Jaxon Smith,
14 Carson Carter, Kooper Knighton, James Koch, Jeremiah Jones, Colt
15 Hodges, Tyler Ortigo, Braylin Allison, Cooper Walters, Abraham
16 Santana, Brandon Allison, Jackson Biggs, Charles Lovil, Caleb
17 Smith, Kaden Gordon, Peyton Duran, and Cooper Colle; and

18 WHEREAS, The team is ably guided by head coach Scott Surratt,
19 who has now won 10 state titles at Carthage, a record for Texas high
20 school football coaches; the Bulldogs also enjoyed support from his
21 assistant coaching staff of Paul Bishop, Marcus Bowman, Zeke Dixon,
22 Clinton Endsley, Craig Fant, James Foster, Nicholas Hanson, Reggie
23 Hill, Kaden Holcomb, Demond Horsley, Art Horton, Grant Johnson,
24 Michael Johnson, Daniel Johnston, Dalton Longenbaugh, Rob McFall,
25 Ryan Marion, Lee Melton, Austin Morgan, Mike Morgan, Yancarlo
26 Palacios, Darren Preston, Damon Roberts, JT Romero, Micah Smith,
27 Matthew Terry, and Charlie Tucker; and

1 WHEREAS, By once again earning the mantle of state champions,
2 the Carthage High School Bulldogs have burnished the school's
3 reputation as a gridiron powerhouse, and this achievement will be
4 fondly remembered for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature
6 hereby congratulate the Carthage High School football team on
7 winning the 2024 UIL 4A Division 2 state championship and extend to
8 the players, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for continued
9 success; and, be it further

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