

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 156

BY SENATOR MCMATH

COMMENDATIONS. Recognizes the Mandeville High School Spinnakers Varsity Dance Team on their outstanding performance at the 2023 UDA National Dance Team Championship.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate the Mandeville High School (MHS) Spinnakers Varsity
3 Dance Team on their outstanding performance at the 2023 Universal Dance
4 Association (UDA) National Dance Team Championship.

5 WHEREAS, UDA has produced national dance team championships since 1983, and
6 in 1995, partnered with Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, to host its annual
7 event at Disney's ESPN Wide World of Sports complex; and

8 WHEREAS, to be eligible to compete in the 2023 event, which in total hosted 365
9 teams across 33 states, teams had to qualify at various competitions as well as meet certain
10 other credentialing and qualifications; and

11 WHEREAS, dance teams compete in divisions based on size and category of dance
12 and are judged on a variety of components depending on the category of dance; and

13 WHEREAS, the Spinnakers Varsity Dance Team has been an institution at MHS
14 since the mid-1980s and has been under the direction of coaches Allie Munster Robichaux
15 and Karleen Bouza Bergeron since late 2017; and

16 WHEREAS, membership on the Spinnakers Varsity Dance Team is based on
17 competitive auditions and this school year's team is comprised of fifteen outstanding young
18 ladies who decided to set lofty goals and devoted themselves to working together to achieve

1 those goals; and

2 WHEREAS, the team's first competition was at the invitation-only UDA Master's
3 Camp in New Orleans in early June of 2022 where the team received its first win of the
4 season competing with their home routine and officially qualified for the UDA's National
5 Dance Team Competition; and

6 WHEREAS, in mid-November, the MHS Spinnakers Dance Team traveled to
7 Brandon, Mississippi, where they competed in UDA's Mississippi Dance Challenge regional
8 competition and received first place for both their Varsity-Pom routine and their
9 Varsity-Game Day routine; and

10 WHEREAS, after many more hours of practice and perfecting their skills, in early
11 January of 2023, the MHS Spinnakers Dance Team traveled to Zachary, Louisiana, and
12 competed at the Dance Team Union regional competition, placing first in Varsity-Pom and
13 Small Varsity-Game Day and second in Small Varsity-Jazz and received the "Most
14 Entertaining Award" for their Game Day performance; and

15 WHEREAS, a few weeks later, the team competed in Hammond, Louisiana, at UDA
16 Louisiana Dance Challenge regional competition where they captured first place in Small
17 Varsity-Game Day and Small Varsity-Jazz and second in Varsity-Pom; and

18 WHEREAS, on February 1, 2023, the MHS Spinnakers traveled to Orlando, Florida
19 to competed in UDA's National Dance Team Competition in the division of Small Varsity-
20 Game Day, Small Varsity-Pom, and Small Varsity-Jazz; and

21 WHEREAS, after competing their way from the preliminary round to the semi-final
22 round to the final round in each category, the MHS Spinnakers set school records by winning
23 the championship title and first place in Small Varsity-Game Day with a score of 86.85; a
24 bronze medal and third place in Small Varsity-Pom with a score of 92.6125; and fifteenth
25 place in Small Varsity-Jazz with a score of 86.5375; and

26 WHEREAS, the championship and the medal are a first for MHS Spinnakers in any
27 category at the national championship and their performance in Small Varsity-Pom and
28 Small Varsity-Jazz broke a seven-year drought of making it to the final round; and

29 WHEREAS, the roster of this year's team includes: Captain Sadie Lopez; Co-Captain
30 Elise Parnell; Lieutenants Sophie Gros and Reese Ellefson; and members Julia Haley, Josie

