

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 84

BY SENATORS STINE, ABRAHAM AND REESE

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate the St. Louis Catholic High School boys soccer team upon winning the Division III state championship.

WHEREAS, the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana take great pride in recognizing the achievements of student-athletes whose discipline, perseverance, and teamwork bring honor to their schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, the boys soccer team of St. Louis Catholic High School in Lake Charles captured the Division III state championship with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over University Laboratory School at Strawberry Stadium; and

WHEREAS, the victory marked the Saints' fourteenth state championship in program history and their first since 2017, continuing a long tradition of excellence that has defined the St. Louis Catholic High School's soccer program for decades; and

WHEREAS, the Saints compiled an outstanding 20-5 record and demonstrated resilience and determination throughout the season and postseason; and

WHEREAS, the team's belief and momentum were forged through several defining moments during the season, including a significant victory at Bossier that broke a longstanding St. Louis Catholic's losing streak at that venue and ignited the team's confidence; and

WHEREAS, the Saints also secured a signature victory over perennial powerhouse Catholic High School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, when Cameron Dufrene scored the decisive goal with ten minutes remaining and goalkeeper Nicholas Jackson delivered a dramatic penalty save in the final minute to preserve the win; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis Catholic went on to win eleven of its final thirteen regular

season games, including several key victories over local rivals, further establishing the team as a championship contender; and

WHEREAS, the Saints displayed remarkable resolve during the postseason, rallying for comeback victories in both the quarterfinal round against E.D. White Catholic High School and the semifinal round against Loyola College Prep in Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, in the semifinal match up, Tucker Williams delivered a clutch hat trick and Will Flavin scored two goals as the Saints surged to a 6-2 victory after trailing early; and

WHEREAS, the championship match proved to be a defensive battle in which sophomore goalkeeper Nicholas Jackson made key saves to keep the game scoreless in the first half; and

WHEREAS, the Saints broke through in the thirty-fourth minute when senior midfielder Drake Hinton lofted a corner kick to junior forward Will Flavin, whose header found the back of the net for the match's only goal, earning Flavin Most Outstanding Player honors; and

WHEREAS, Flavin's performance was particularly inspiring as he returned from injury during the playoffs to play a pivotal role in the Saints' championship run; and

WHEREAS, throughout the season, Ty Pousson provided consistent offensive leadership, finishing with seventeen goals and twelve assists to lead the team in both categories; and

WHEREAS, the Saints' championship season was guided by first-year Head Coach Zach Malik and assistant coaches Alexander Stroh, Tyson Green, Matthew Walsh, and Noah Ellender, whose leadership, preparation, and dedication helped restore the program to championship form; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Coach Alexander Stroh devoted countless hours to scouting opponents across the state and conducting detailed film analysis while continuing his personal legacy with the program, having won three state championships as a player for St. Louis Catholic, including scoring the winning goal in the state final during his senior season; and

WHEREAS, the team dedicated its championship run to honoring the memory of tragically lost teammates, drawing inspiration from their legacy throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, the members of the championship team include Ty Pousson, Will Flavin, Jack Bartlett, Harrison Hurt, Drake Hinton, Griffin Hanks, Max Hoffoss, Patrick Namie, Nicholas Jackson, Tucker Williams, Brice Foreman, Diego Ramon Moreno, Cameron Dufrene, Henry Tadlock, Jace Manuel, Liam English, Abram Green, Felix Huber, Ashton Jacques, Maddox Authement, Sam Richards, Logan Biven, Owen Pousson, Finley Green, Max Nixon, Demoine Mercer, Levi Burton, and Paul Adams; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, sportsmanship, and teamwork demonstrated by the St. Louis Catholic Saints reflect great credit upon the players, coaches, faculty, families, and the entire Lake Charles community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the St. Louis Catholic High School boys soccer team upon winning the Division III state championship and does hereby extend best wishes for continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to St. Louis Catholic High School and to Head Coach Zach Malik.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE