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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE CENTRAL FALLS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM ON
WINNING THE 2018 RHODE ISLAND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Introduced By: Senators Crowley, Ruggiero, Lombardi, Metts, and Archambault

Date Introduced: January 30, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The 2018 Central Falls Football Team, led by an experienced squad
2 consisting of sixteen seniors, compiled an outstanding 9-3 record, with a first place finish in the
3 Division III regular season standings, and victory in the Rhode Island Division III Super Bowl;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The Central Falls Warriors Football Team began the 2018 playoffs as the
6 one seed and got off to an excellent start when they thrashed fourth seeded North Providence by
7 the score of 34-6 to advance to the title game. In the Super Bowl for the State Championship,
8 played at Cranston Stadium, the Warriors faced their rivals, Pilgrim High School; and

9 WHEREAS, In one of the greatest State Title games in Rhode Island High School
10 football history, Central Falls won an exhilarating 14-10 victory to become State Champions.
11 After the Warriors defense came up big early in the game and stopped a Pilgrim drive at their
12 own 22 yard line, Central Falls put the first points on the scoreboard early in the second period
13 when Dutchie Arroyo, a versatile athlete with breakaway speed, took a handoff and broke through
14 on the left side and blazed away untouched for a seventy-two yard touchdown. Later in the
15 second half, Warriors quarterback Luis Gonzalez snaked a pass through tight quarters to hit wide
16 receiver Leonardo DaVeiga who raced away for a 71 yard touchdown. Central Falls entered
17 halftime with a 14-0 lead. They would be forced to lean on their veteran defense to save their title
18 hopes in the second half; and

19 WHEREAS, The Pilgrim Patriots made a furious rally in the second half, shutting down

1 the Central Falls offense and closing the deficit to four points, 14-10, but were stymied in their
2 attempts to take the lead by a tenacious Central Falls defense, led by seniors Jordan Alvarado, the
3 Frank Morey Memorial Most Valuable Player of the game, Dutchie Arroyo, Warren Smith,
4 William Severino, Jonathan Acosta, and Omar Soto, along with standout juniors Darryl
5 Fleurantin and Justin Cruz, a unit that made big plays throughout the game, including two vital
6 goal-line stands, one at the one-yard line, to preserve the lead and securing the title for the Central
7 Falls Warriors; and

8 WHEREAS, Winning a state Title in a team sport is an exceedingly difficult task, one
9 requiring that every player on the team give his all and put team needs and goals ahead of
10 personal desires and aspirations. The Central Falls Football Team had those qualities in
11 abundance in 2018 as they were led all season by the key contributions provided by Jordan
12 Alvarado, Dutchie Arroyo, Jason DePina, Luis Gonzalez, Leonardo DaVeiga, Erickson DaVeiga,
13 Tyreese Gomes, Darryl Fleurantin, Nikolas Gibbons, Hericson Guelen, Eliud Vega Bonilla,
14 Tyrique DaSilva, Stephawn Lockley, Erik Rivera, Omar Soto, Jeremy Hernandez, Kenneth
15 Carpenter, Danzel Diaz, Warren Smith, Jonathan Acosta, Justin Cruz, William Gonzalez
16 Severino, Cristian Valdez, Axel Valdez, Levar Mathis, Calvin Romero, Jovan Masse, Jalan Ruiz,
17 Lionel Bridgett, and Jaquell Christal. Central Falls also benefited all season by the outstanding
18 coaching provided by Head Coach Jeff Lapierre, Assistant Coaches Anthony Ficocelli, Noel
19 Grant, and Volunteer Coaches Luis Melendez and Brandon Canuto; now, therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
21 hereby congratulates the Central Falls Football Team on winning the 2018 Rhode Island Division
22 III Championship; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
24 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Jeff Lapierre, Central Falls Head Football
25 Coach.

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