**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR ROBERT D. COBLE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly have learned that on July 1, 2010, Mayor Robert D. Coble will begin a much deserved retirement as mayor of the City of Columbia where he has faithfully served the citizens of the Capital City during a remarkable and distinguished career; and

Whereas, a cum laude graduate of the University of South Carolina in 1975, he repeated the honor when he earned a jurisprudence doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1978; and

Whereas, after serving on the Richland County Council for five years, Bob Coble was first elected as the municipal leader of the City of Columbia in 1990 and has continually championed neighborhood empowerment, economic development, and technological advancement in the city; and

Whereas, working tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all the citizens of Columbia, he was instrumental in creating the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority and served as the fundraising chairman for the United Negro College Fund; and

Whereas, he has served as the president of the Municipal Association of South Carolina, the chairman of the Fighting Back Task Force for Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and a member of the advisory board for the Medical University of South Carolina, the Council on Aging, and the South Carolina Special Olympics; and

Whereas, nineteen years ago, he established the Mayor’s Corporate Citizen of the Year Award to recognize companies that encourage volunteerism in their employees and that make a significant contribution to the community’s nonprofit organizations; and

Whereas, heavily involved on many boards and commissions in the community, he currently serves as a board member with the River Alliance, Engenuity, and the Central Carolina Economic Development Alliance; and

Whereas, he has received numerous recognitions for his outstanding public service including being named Ambassador of the Year in 2004, induction into the Richland One’s Hall of Fame in 2007, and receiving the Central Midlands Council of Governments Regional Leadership Award in 2007 and the Global Vision Award from the World Affairs Council in 2008; and

Whereas, he and his beloved wife, the former Beth McLeod, have reared six fine children who have blessed them with two adoring grandsons, and they are members of Trenholm Road United Methodist Church where Mayor Coble taught Sunday school and was a Boy Scout leader for a number of years; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are grateful for the long and distinguished career of Mayor Bob Coble. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Robert D. Coble, upon the occasion of his retirement, after twenty years of faithful service as mayor of the City of Columbia, and wish him much success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mayor Robert D. Coble.

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