**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE C. DAVID WARREN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS THIRTY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina General Assembly honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great State’s citizenry; and

Whereas, C. David Warren, retiring Executive Director of the Richland County Public Library, stands among their number as one much admired for his many years of committed service to the citizens of South Carolina; and

Whereas, recognized across the country and internationally for his leadership and strength in library management, Mr. Warren bears a reputation as an innovator that has led to numerous appointments with local, state, and national organizations; and

Whereas, he was hired in 1979 to provide vision and leadership to the transforming of a small, underfunded library system into a dynamic, visible force in the community. In 1989, he guided the library through a successful bond referendum that resulted in twenty‑seven million dollars for major capital improvements to the library system, including the construction of a new 242,000‑square‑foot main library, the expansion and relocation of five branches, and the creation of two new branches. The referendum received an incredible seventy‑two percent approval from Richland County voters; and

Whereas, during David Warren’s tenure, use of the library system has grown substantially and steadily. Circulation of materials has increased from nine hundred thousand in 1980 to more than 3.3 million in 2008, and the library’s collection has grown from about three hundred sixty thousand items in 1980 to more than 1.3 million in 2008. The steady growth in use of library programs and the strong financial support undergirding them are indicative of the positive way the citizens of Richland County have responded to Mr. Warren’s leadership; and

Whereas, the recipient of many awards and honors at both state and national levels during his tenure at the Richland County Public Library, David Warren in 1991 was named Librarian of the Year by the South Carolina Library Association, as well as Public Administrator of the Year by the South Carolina chapter of the American Society for Public Administrators for 1992/1993; and

Whereas, as a result of David Warren’s leadership, the Richland County Public Library was named the National Library of the Year in 2001, bringing positive national attention to the Midlands and South Carolina. His vision and ability to think outside the box have enabled the Richland County Public Library to set a new standard for public library systems in South Carolina and the Southeast; and

Whereas, having made his mark and set the bar of achievement extraordinarily high in his profession, Mr. Warren will be remembered with affection and gratitude by colleagues and legislative friends for years to come. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate C. David Warren, Executive Director of the Richland County Public Library, upon the occasion of his retirement, commend him for his thirty years of dedicated service, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. C. David Warren.

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