**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE LIFE OF ONE OF SOUTH CAROLINA’S MOST DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS, THE HONORABLE THOMAS BEE, TO CELEBRATE AND ACKNOWLEDGE HIS SIGNIFICANT, PATRIOTIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESSFUL FORMATION OF OUR STATE AND NATION, AND TO DECLARE JANUARY 14, 2012, “THOMAS BEE DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to acknowledge the prolific and noteworthy accomplishments of Thomas Bee, one of South Carolina’s most distinguished citizens, and his role in influencing the beginning of our State and nation; and

Whereas, in 1761, Thomas Bee’s fifty year career began when he started his private law practice. He began public service to the State as a representative to the South Carolina House of Representatives and became the Speaker of the House, and also served in the South Carolina Senate; and

Whereas, he served as the Stamp Act commissioner and as a member of the 1st and 2nd Provincial Congress and later to the Continental Congress; and

Whereas, he was elected to serve as the lieutenant governor of the State of South Carolina and served under Governor John Rutledge; and

Whereas, serving his community as well, Thomas Bee was the president of the Charleston Library Society and the chairman of the founding board of trustees of the College of Charleston; and

Whereas, with a passion for serving his nation, he was appointed a federal judge by President George Washington and was also nominated and confirmed to the Supreme Court of the United States; and

Whereas, in the cemetery located on the historic 18th century Woodstock Rice Plantation in Charleston County which he owned during the Revolutionary War, five headstones stand as mute sentinels to family members of the Bee/Bulline family, including one marking the grave of Thomas Bee; and

Whereas, on January 14, 2012, Sumter’s Home Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will mark this grave with the prestigious bronze DAR star to note the patriotism and work of this founding father of our State and nation; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution in honoring Thomas Bee and are pleased to recognize his patriotic life and momentous work by declaring Saturday, January 14, 2012, as “Thomas Bee Day” in South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the life of one of South Carolina’s most distinguished citizens, the Honorable Thomas Bee, celebrate and acknowledge his significant, patriotic contributions to the successful formation of our State and nation, and declare January 14, 2012, “Thomas Bee Day” in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Sumter’s Home Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

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