**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR GENERAL LLOYD W. “FIG” NEWTON FOR HIS OUTSTANDING MILITARY CAREER AND FOR HIS DEVOTION TO HIS NATION AND THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate take great pride in commending members of the United States Armed Forces who serve this great nation with valor and distinction; and

Whereas, born on Christmas Eve, 1942, General Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton, United States Air Force Retired, rose from his humble beginnings in Ridgeland to become a military legend; and

Whereas, he graduated from Jasper High School and earned a bachelor of science in aviation education from Tennessee State University, where he was commissioned as a distinguished graduate through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1966; and

Whereas, after General Newton completed pilot training at Williams Air Force Base in Arizona in 1967, he flew two hundred sixty‑nine combat missions from Da Nang Air Base, South Vietnam, including seventy‑nine missions over North Vietnam; and

Whereas, in 1974, he became the first African American selected to join the United States Air Force’s elite Aerial Demonstration Squadron, known as the Thunderbirds; and

Whereas, General Newton served as an Air Force congressional liaison officer with the United States House of Representatives from 1978 to 1982, and later he earned a master of arts in public administration from George Washington University in 1985; and

Whereas, a command pilot with more than four thousand flying hours, General Newton has commanded three wings and an air division and has held numerous staff positions; and

Whereas, through meritorious and rapid promotions, he served his nation in a highly decorated career and earned the rank of general officer, four stars, the highest military rank in the United States Air Force, in 1997; and

Whereas, after his retirement from the United States Air Force in 2000, General Newton continued to serve his country as a member of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission and on the Commission on White House Fellowships; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the distinguished military career of General Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton and for the recognition he has brought to his hometown of Ridgeland and to this great State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor General Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton for his outstanding military career and for his devotion to his nation and his home State of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to General Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton.

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