**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE 1‑118 COMBINED ARMS BATTALION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UPON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF OPERATION FRIENDSHIP II, CARRIED OUT IN SAUDI ARABIA FEBRUARY 16 ‑ MARCH 4, 2011.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, on behalf of all South Carolinians, acknowledge with deep appreciation the great sacrifice that the men and women of the United States Armed Forces make for the ideals of freedom and justice, which are so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

Whereas, in seeking to assist the people of Saudi Arabia in their own pursuit of liberty, the 1‑118 Combined Arms Battalion of the South Carolina Army National Guard embarked upon Operation Friendship II in that country from February 16 - March 4, 2011; and

Whereas, a combined nine‑day training event of the South Carolina Army National Guard and the Royal Saudi Land Forces (RSLF), Operation Friendship II served as an opportunity to train with the RSLF and teach them tactics and techniques of counter‑insurgency warfare; and

Whereas, among the techniques taught to the Royal Saudi Land Forces were how to clear a room or building of the enemy and how to react while in a convoy being hit by a sniper. The climax of the operation was a company lane training event that combined RSLF and American forces under the command of United States and Saudi leadership, the whole being evaluated by South Carolina Army National Guard forces and RSLF soldiers; and

Whereas, housed on Forward Operating Base Sumter in a tent city located in the desert of Khamis, Saudi Arabia, Operation Friendship II strengthened the relationship between the United States and the Royal Saudi Land Forces, and the South Carolina Army National Guard stood out in training and set an outstanding example for the Saudi Royal Land Forces to follow; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly counts it a great privilege to recognize the 1‑118 Combined Arms Battalion of the South Carolina Army National Guard for its fine work in Operation Friendship II, and the members with one voice offer their grateful thanks and congratulations on duty well done to the battalion’s choice sons and daughters of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate the 1‑118 Combined Arms Battalion of the South Carolina Army National Guard upon the successful completion of Operation Friendship II, carried out in Saudi Arabia February 16 ‑ March 4, 2011.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the 1‑118 Combined Arms Battalion of the South Carolina Army National Guard.

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