**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATH OF THE REVEREND DONNIE ELY COLLINS OF SUMTER COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the death of the Reverend Donnie Ely Collins of Sumter County on May 25, 2012, at the age of sixty‑one; and

Whereas, born in Manning, this fine Sumter resident was a son of Leroy Eugene Collins and Liela Mae White Collins; and

Whereas, Reverend Collins, who served as senior pastor of Sumter’s Green Acres Assembly of God Church for thirty‑seven years, founded and helped build his church’s facilities; and

Whereas, a welder by trade, he also owned and operated Collins and Son Welding. He could transform raw metal into almost anything, as with a custom car he built. More important, he had the ability to transform a raw life into something productive; and

Whereas, because his ministry and contributions reached far beyond his church, his loss has impacted not only his community of faith but also the Sumter area as a whole; and

Whereas, preceded in death by a son, Donnie E. Collins, Jr., Reverend Collins leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife, Miriam Hudson Collins; three daughters, Wendy R. Collins, Cindy C. Pierson, and Christina C. Papania; twelve grandchildren; seven great‑grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends. He will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the death of the Reverend Donnie Ely Collins of Sumter County and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Mrs. Miriam Hudson Collins for the family.

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