**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GEOFFREY A. WHITSITT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE PROFOUND APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

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

Whereas, the son of Deborah L. and Steven S. Whitsitt, Sr., Geoffrey A. Whitsitt grew up in Taylors with the dream of becoming a soldier, specifically a United States Army Ranger; and

Whereas, homeschooled through the tenth grade, he graduated from Greenville Tech Charter High School in 2007; and

Whereas, he answered the call of his country to serve in Afghanistan and deployed from Fort Bragg with his unit, 118th Military Police Company (Airborne), 503rd Military Police Battalion (Airborne), 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne); and

Whereas, while he enjoyed living his childhood dream of military service, he was a man of faith who tried to live a life that was “pleasing to God”; and

Whereas, on January 13, 2010, at the age of twenty‑one, Private First Class Geoffrey A. Whitsitt gave his life near Combat Outpost McClain, Afghanistan, when enemy forces attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device; and

Whereas, he left behind his loving parents and his brother, Steven S. Whitsitt, Jr., of the United States Navy; and

Whereas, there is no greater or braver sacrifice for a man to make for his country than to lay down his life; therefore, for his valor, Private First Class Geoffrey A. Whitsitt received the Palmetto Patriot Award from former Lieutenant Governor André Bauer; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is honored to remember the life and sacrifice of a brave son and hero of the Palmetto State, Private First Class Geoffrey A. Whitsitt. 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, honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Private First Class Geoffrey A. Whitsitt of the United States Army while he was serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan, and express to his family the profound appreciation of a grateful State and nation for his life, sacrifice, and service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Private First Class Geoffrey A. Whitsitt.

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