**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR GASPER LOREN TOOLE III OF AIKEN COUNTY UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE AIKEN COUNTY COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, TO THANK HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Whereas, since 1965, the Aiken County Commission for Higher Education has enjoyed the benefit of the dedication, experience, and leadership of member Gasper Loren Toole III, who will retire from his post on June 30, 2013, after forty‑eight years of service; and

Whereas, during his tenure on the Aiken County Commission for Higher Education, Mr. Toole, well respected by his colleagues, served as chair from 1986 to 2002 and formerly served as secretary of the organization; and

Whereas, this Aiken County native attended the University of South Carolina (USC) Columbia, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in naval science and tactics. In later years, he was credited with being one of the major forces behind the development and growth of the USC Aiken campus, established in 1961; and

Whereas, heeding the call of his country, he served three and a half years on active duty in the United States Navy in World War II and more than twenty‑six years in the Naval Reserve, retiring as a commander. After his active military service, he continued his education at the USC School of Law graduating in 1948. He joined the Aiken law firm of Toole and Toole, where he currently serves as counsel; and

Whereas, a member of Saint Mary’s Catholic Church, he is actively involved in his community as a member of a number of civic and professional organizations, including the Aiken County Bar Association, South Carolina Bar Association, and American Bar Association; and

Whereas, in addition, his history of service includes being president of the Aiken County Chapter of the American Red Cross; a founding trustee and member of the Mead Hall School Board of Directors; a member and secretary of the Aiken County Planning and Development Commission; a member of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Aiken Board of Directors, as well as of the bank’s executive committee; and a member of the former Citizens and Southern National Bank of South Carolina Board of Directors; and

Whereas, he also was one of three founders of Security Federal Savings Bank of South Carolina, organized in 1958. He has served as vice president and has been on its board of directors and executive committee since 1958; and

Whereas, blessed with strong family support, Mr. Toole finds strength for his labors in the encouragement of his wife, Doris; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives, grateful for Mr. Toole’s many years of faithfulness in serving the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in commending him for his contributions to education in this great State, especially in Aiken County. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Gasper Loren Toole III of Aiken County upon the occasion of his retirement from the Aiken County Commission for Higher Education, thank him for his many years of outstanding public service, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in the years ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Gasper Loren Toole III.

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