**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

CONGRATULATING MR. BUCKY WOODALL OF WHITNEY, IN SPARTANBURG COUNTY, ON BEING RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNOR’S COMMITTEE ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR IN THE SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives were pleased to learn that Mr. Bucky Woodall of Whitney, in Spartanburg County, was recognized in a ceremony in Columbia on May 17, 2013, by the Governor’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities as an employee of the year in the small business category; and

Whereas, Bucky, age twenty‑five, who was enrolled in the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind, got his first job two years ago at Firehouse Subs with the assistance of the local South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Center, which trains and matches up persons with disabilities with area employers; and

Whereas, Dana Rolin, Vocational Rehabilitation job coach, who nominated Bucky for the state award, notes that Bucky is a delight to work with, has never met a stranger, radiates extraordinary energy and is “a joy to know”; and

Whereas, as he works at Firehouse Subs in Boiling Springs, where he performs multiple tasks essential for the restaurant’s successful operation, including taking on the persona of the restaurant’s mascot “Sparky” and dancing and twirling a sign in front of the store in a Dalmatian mask and fireman’s coat; and

Whereas, Woodall relates that “I like my job. It’s special to me.” His managers say he is never late, always works hard, and keeps a positive attitude and Mr. Omar Ghorbani, owner of Firehouse Subs of Spartanburg, notes that “he’s an inspiration to our team .... cheerful in all weathers .... very positive .... has an outstanding attitude”; and

Whereas, with himself having multiple developmental disabilities, Bucky helps with fundraising for Special Olympics, in which he has twice competed, learned sign language during his time at the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind and regularly serves as a translator, was part of the Working Wheels program at Wofford College and while at the School for the Deaf and Blind earned its Most Outstanding Student Award Scholarship, served in the color guard, and the Hopping Hornets jump rope team, all while mentoring younger students; and

Whereas, he also serves as a volunteer for the Whitney Fire Department by helping firefighters with essential tasks around the station, attends Restoration Church, loves music, fishing, hunting, and motorcycles; and

Whereas, his advice to those dealing with disabilities is short but profound ‑‑ “It’s worth trying. Make yourself happy; be somebody who cares. Know that you can do things. If you say you can’t, then you won’t. At least give it a shot and give it all your best.”; and

Whereas, it is appropriate for the members of the House of Representatives to pause in their deliberations to express their congratulations to this outstanding young South Carolinian on his recognition by the Governor’s Committee on the Employment of People With Disabilities. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Mr. Bucky Woodall of Whitney, in Spartanburg County, on being recognized by the Governor’s Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities as an employee of the year in the small business category.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mr. Bucky Woodall.

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