**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE MEMBERS OF EACH BRANCH OF THE ARMED SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE RESERVE AND NATIONAL GUARD COMPONENTS THEREOF, INCLUDING MEMBERS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND THE SECURITY OF OUR STATE AND NATION AND TO DECLARE SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2013, AS “UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY”.

Whereas, South Carolinians honor, remember, recognize, and appreciate the brave men and women who now serve, or have served, selflessly in the United State armed forces; and

Whereas, the freedom and security that South Carolinians enjoy today are direct results of the sacrifices and continued vigilance of our veterans and active duty men and women in uniform; and

Whereas, there are many who have given their lives so that we might live in freedom. Many veterans have been seriously injured and others have experienced post‑traumatic stress or depression. These men and women have our utmost respect and gratitude; and

Whereas, our South Carolina military units ‑ whether active duty members, South Carolina Army and Air National Guard, or the Reserves ‑ continue to play a profound role in the global war on terrorism and disaster relief missions by selflessly serving both far from home and within our borders to secure our continued blessings and freedoms; and

Whereas, our longstanding ties to the armed forces throughout South Carolina’s history have resulted in increased security, economic benefit, and stronger communities. Military members and their families contribute to and enrich communities across the State in addition to protecting our freedoms; and

Whereas, South Carolina has greatly benefited from the tremendous efforts of the armed forces, and is proud to formally recognize, honor, and extend our appreciation for all service members, past and present, and their families, and to set aside a special day in their honor in tribute for the sacrifices and service of the brave men and women of our armed forces. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina congratulate the members of each branch of the armed services of the United States and the Reserves and National Guard components thereof, including members from South Carolina, for their contributions to the cause of freedom and the security of our State and nation, and declare Saturday, July 27, 2013, as “Upstate South Carolina Military Appreciation Day”.

Be it further resolved the members of the House of Representatives urge all South Carolinians to recognize and express appreciation for all military men and women, and their families, across our State who help protect and enrich our communities.

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