**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LIEUTENANT HARVEY LAWRENCE BETHEA, OF THE HILTON HEAD FIRE DEPARTMENT, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER MORE THAN THREE DECADES OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to Harvey Lawrence Bethea for his significant contributions as a first responder in the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, after joining the Bluffton Fire Department in August of 1981, he joined the Bluffton Rescue Squad in March of 1982, and by September 1982, he was hired by the Hilton Head Fire Department; and

Whereas, by March 1983, Mr. Bethea had earned certification as a Basic EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) and a year later as an Intermediate EMT; and

Whereas, he was certified in January of 1986 as an EMT Paramedic, and in the same year he passed the fire engineer process; and

Whereas, in 1988, Mr. Bethea was promoted to lieutenant of the Hilton Head Fire Department and two years later to captain, which rank he held for ten years; and

Whereas, when his job was reclassified, he returned to the rank of lieutenant, where he continued to serve for fourteen years until his retirement in January of 2014; and

Whereas, during his career, Lieutenant Bethea obtained certification for and performed as a Basic Life Support instructor, Advanced Cardiac Life Support instructor, Pediatric Advanced Life Support instructor, and a South Carolina Fire Academy instructor and fire investigator; and

Whereas, he further obtained certification as a National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications Fire Officer II and Fire Instructor I, a Southern Building Code Congress International Fire Inspector, and a South Carolina Deputy Fire Marshal; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the years of dedication that Lieutenant Bethea has devoted to the safety and well‑being of the citizens of Hilton Head and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Lieutenant Harvey Lawrence Bethea, of the Hilton Head Fire Department, upon the occasion of his retirement after more than three decades of outstanding service, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Harvey Lawrence Bethea.

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