**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JOE R. BABB OF LAURENS COUNTY UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE LAURENS COUNTY REGISTRATION AND ELECTION COMMISSION, 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 1992, the Laurens County Registration and Election Commission has enjoyed the benefit of the dedication, experience, and leadership of member and past chairman Joe R. Babb, who is retiring from his post after twenty‑two years of service; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, in 1973 Joe Babb graduated from the University of South Carolina, having earned a bachelor’s degree in political science. In 1976, he completed his master’s degree in public administration at the same institution; and

Whereas, in the same year in which he completed his master’s degree, Mr. Babb took up his duties as administrative director of Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, thus beginning a long and productive career. Presently, he is president and CEO of Healthcare Management Associates; and

Whereas, Joe Babb was no stranger to public service when he first began his service on the Laurens County Registration and Election Commission; he had already given of his time and talents to local government from the period 1982 to 1990, when he served on Laurens County Council. During his time as a council member, he served as vice chairman and chairman, also chairing a blue‑ribbon committee to develop the county’s first strategic plan and participating in restructuring delivery of many county services; and

Whereas, as a member of the Laurens County Registration and Election Commission, he has seen the elimination of the paper‑ballot system and expansion of service to municipalities, among other accomplishments; and

Whereas, because he believes all citizens should be actively involved in their communities, he serves, or has served, as Rotary District 7750 (Rotary International) assistant governor and past foundation chairman, Boy Scouts of America volunteer, Spartanburg County Meals on Wheels charter board member, Cornerstone Baptist Church chair for the Personnel Committee and Finance and Stewardship Committee, as well as member of the church’s Long‑range Planning Committee; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives, grateful for Joe Babb’s many years of faithfulness in serving the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in commending him for his contributions to progress and quality of life in this great State, especially in Laurens 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 Joe R. Babb of Laurens County upon the occasion of his retirement from the Laurens County Registration and Election Commission, 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 Joe Babb.

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