**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. JOHNNY HILTON, PRINCIPAL OF MILLWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY‑FOUR YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR, 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 Dr. Johnny Hilton of Sumter County for his significant contributions to education in the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, after earning a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of South Carolina, he continued to study at his alma mater, receiving a master’s degree in secondary social studies and a doctorate in education administration; and

Whereas, believing there is no higher calling than to be a teacher, he served as a longtime substitute teacher at R. E. Davis Elementary School, taught social studies at Sumter High School, and served as the assistant principal first at Sumter High School and then at Alice Drive Elementary School; and

Whereas, from an office covered with student files and paperwork, Dr. Hilton has led Millwood Elementary School in Sumter as its principal for twenty‑five years by setting a worthy example and modeling the high standards he set for his students and teachers; and

Whereas, among his most cherished accomplishments at Millwood is the establishment of the Barry Leach scholarship fund, a program which was named after a twenty‑three‑year veteran science teacher who passed away in 2000 and has already awarded $22,000 in scholarships to former Millwood students; and

Whereas, he plans to retire in June 2014 when his contract ends and to continue contributing to education and the Sumter community through his participation in the Rotary Club and the Coins for Alzheimer’s Research Trust; and

Whereas, besides playing and writing music, he hopes to spend many happy hours of retirement with his two children, John B. Hilton III and Margaret Hunter Hilton, and in singing and playing the saxophone with The Footnotes, a Sumter band, in the Beach Music Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the years of unparalleled dedication that Dr. Hilton has devoted to the education of our state’s children 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 Dr. Johnny Hilton, Principal of Millwood Elementary School, upon the occasion of his retirement after thirty‑four years of outstanding service as an educator, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Johnny Hilton.

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