**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SINGER LEE BRICE FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL MUSICAL CAREER AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM UPON RECEIVING THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARD FOR SONG OF THE YEAR.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Sumter native Lee Brice was honored with the award for Song of the Year at the forty‑ninth annual Academy of Country Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on Sunday, April 6, 2014; and

Whereas, after an injury sustained while playing football on scholarship at Clemson University ended his football career, Lee Brice turned to music, and the results have been astounding; and

Whereas, one of his first hits was “Sumter County Friday Nights,” and his career has included writing songs for country legends Garth Brooks and Jason Aldean; and

Whereas, the award‑winning ballad, which earned the acclaim of the Academy of Country Music, was written by Jessi Alexander, Connie Harrington, and Jimmy Yeary and is entitled, “I Drive Your Truck”; and

Whereas, the song was featured on Lee Brice’s album, *Hard 2 Love*, and was based on a true story of a father’s grief for his soldier‑son; and

Whereas, inspired by the story of Paul Monti whose son and Medal of Honor recipient Jared was killed in Afghanistan while trying to save a fellow soldier, the song was also named song of the year by the Country Music Association; and

Whereas, during the nationally televised broadcast of the awards for the Academy of Country Music, the recording artist sang a short but powerful rendition of the emotional song on a darkened stage, dressed all in black and using a dramatic white acoustic guitar; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the pride and recognition that Lee Brice has brought to the Palmetto State and celebrate with him this outstanding tribute. 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 singer Lee Brice for an exceptional musical career and congratulate him upon receiving the Academy of Country Music award for Song of the Year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Lee Brice.

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