**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF JOHN LITTLE, CHAIRMAN OF THE OCONEE COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM COMMISSION, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WHO ADMINISTERED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIGH FALLS, SOUTH COVE, AND CHAU RAM COUNTY PARKS.

Whereas, when Duke Power Company informed the Oconee legislative delegation that the company had six recreational sites on the newly developed Lake Keowee and wanted Oconee County to develop the High Falls site into a county park, there was little interest from the county planners for several years; and

Whereas, John Little, a forester for the South Carolina Forestry Commission, was asked to consider a volunteer position on the Oconee County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission to coincide with the appointment of a new county planning commissioner, in order to develop the High Falls site for a county park near the state’s Scenic Route; and

Whereas, because of his desire to see tax money spent wisely, John Little accepted the appointment, along with Joel Harris, Rhett Evatt, Duke Cleveland, and Ray Stephens. Mr. Little was elected to serve as the commission’s chairman, a position he held during the building and maintenance of High Falls, South Cove, and Chau Ram parks; and

Whereas, with an initial budget of twelve thousand dollars a year, the commission acquired twelve campsites from Duke Power Company, which would serve as the main source of revenue for the park; and

Whereas, Duke Power agreed to provide twenty‑five campsites and a new well and to move the historic Alexander Hill House to High Falls Park. The county allocated funds for a used pickup truck, a sling blade, and a shovel to begin development of the park; and

Whereas, later the Oconee County delegation, consisting of Senator Snead Schumacher, Representative Herbert Morgan, and Representative Lowell Ross, acquired funds for a tractor, a bush hog, and a new four‑wheel‑drive pickup truck; and

Whereas, matching funds were secured from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the Appalachian Council of Governments to build infrastructure buildings, docks, a beach, picnic shelters, bath houses, and a tennis court and to acquire picnic tables and playground equipment; and

Whereas, the commission sought and received thirty‑five more campsites from Duke Power to increase revenue that would provide the recreational amenities. Pleased with the results at High Falls, Duke offered the South Cove site and others on Lake Keowee and one on Joccassee for the commission to tackle; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the outstanding work of John Little and the commissioners of the Oconee County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission who labored so diligently to develop the beautiful county parks that now grace our State for the enjoyment of residents and tourists alike. 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 the outstanding service of John Little, Chairman of the Oconee County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission, and the members of the commission who administered the development of the High Falls, South Cove, and Chau Ram county parks.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to John Little.

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