**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UPON THE PASSING OF ROBERT RUSSELL COATS OF NEWBERRY, AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LARGE AND LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Robert Russell “Spott” Coats on Tuesday, June 3, 2014; and

Whereas, born in 1936, Spott Coats interrupted his studies at Newberry High School to serve in the United States Army. After serving with distinction in the 26th Infantry Scout Dog Platoon, he was honorably discharged at the rank of corporal in 1957 and returned to Newberry to complete high school; and

Whereas, Mr. Coats served the insurance industry for thirty‑six years, first with Life Insurance Company of Virginia and then with Liberty Life Insurance Companies, before retiring in 2003; and

Whereas, devoted to his community, Mr. Coats served sixteen years on the Newberry City Council, the last two as the council’s mayor pro tem. He represented Newberry ten years on the Central Midlands Council of Governments Board as its chairman from 1985 to 1986. He served ten years on the Newberry Gas Authority board of directors, nine years on the board of the Newberry County Hospital, and as a past president of the Newberry Jaycees; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, the late Nancy Chappell Coats, he reared two fine children, Karen Coats Kinard and Bobby Wayne Coats both of Newberry. They blessed their parents with five adoring grandchildren and seven great‑grandchildren. Through a life of service and a legacy of compassion, Spott Coats has enriched his descendants and our State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow, upon the passing of Robert Russell Coats of Newberry, and extend their deepest sympathy to his large and loving family and his many friends.