**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE LATE COACH FRANK MCGUIRE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA BASKETBALL PROGRAM AS HEAD COACH OF THE GAMECOCKS, TO RECOGNIZE HIS ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER, AND TO DECLARE FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2014, AS “FRANK MCGUIRE DAY” IN COLUMBIA TO COMMEMORATE THIS MARK OF HIGH ESTEEM.

Whereas, Frank Joseph McGuire, the Head Coach of the Fighting Gamecocks Basketball team from 1964‑1980, remains to this day the winningest coach in the history of the University of South Carolina basketball program, with a win/loss record of 283-142; and

Whereas, Coach McGuire, after leading the University of North Carolina to a National Championship in 1957, left UNC for a brief stint as Head Coach of the NBA’s Philadelphia Warriors with players including Wilt Chamberlain. He arrived at the University of South Carolina in 1964 to coach, win, and develop players who went on to professional basketball success as players and coaches and to personal success in many varied endeavors; and

Whereas, Coach McGuire led the Gamecocks to national prominence and success, including a team which went undefeated in the Atlantic Coast Conference in 1970 winning 25 games in that season, and a team which won the ACC Championship in 1971; and

Whereas, after the Gamecocks became “independents” following the departure of USC from the ACC, he guided the Gamecocks to three NCAA tournaments and to the NIT twice; and

Whereas, his strength of character and commitment to his players led him to sign the first ever African‑American basketball players at two different schools. Solly Walker was signed in 1950 at St. John’s University and Casey Manning at the University of South Carolina in 1969. These signings helped transform the social fabric of each of those universities and the state in which they resided; and

Whereas, Coach McGuire was a proud son of the Irish, proud Head Coach of the Gamecocks, and a proud family man with loving children including Frank, Jr., known affectionately to all Gamecock fans as “Frankie”; and

Whereas, Frank McGuire’s legendary skill as a coach and his contributions to the sport of basketball and to the development of young men as athletes and models for young admirers brought unparalled basketball fever and acclaim to gamecock country. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the late Frank McGuire on his outstanding contributions to the University of South Carolina and State of South Carolina and to the public and his players, and declare Friday, January 17, 2014, as “Frank McGuire Day” in Columbia, acknowledging that all Irish and Gamecock eyes will be smiling on this day with the memories of the McGuire era.

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