**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE LIEUTENANT JAMES “SMOKEY” ELLIOTT, FORMER MIDWAY FIRE RESCUE FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS TWENTY‑FIVE YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF GEORGETOWN COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR MUCH SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate has learned that in December 2013 Lieutenant James “Smokey” Elliott, former Midway Fire Rescue firefighter paramedic, began a well‑deserved retirement after twenty‑five years of meritorious service to the people of Georgetown County, as well to the county’s many visitors; and

Whereas, having become a South Carolina Emergency Medical Technician Basic in 1987, Smokey Elliott took up his duties in 1988 with Georgetown County Emergency Medical Services. In 1990, he became a paramedic with the State of South Carolina and in 1991 was hired at Midway Fire Rescue as a firefighter paramedic; and

Whereas, Lieutenant Elliott was responsible for training hundreds of new paramedics over the course of his career. Committed to the safety and well‑being of firefighter/EMS personnel and the community, this company officer and paramedic was essential to keeping Midway Fire Rescue well versed with new EMS procedures and trends and served as a primary driver in the company’s Quality Assurance Program and Protocol Development Program; and

Whereas, his expertise in his chosen field enabled him to win the Pee Dee Regional Paramedic Competition in both 1996 and 1998, and for the excellence of his work he was named 2010 Midway Fire Rescue Tom Boyd Firefighter Paramedic of the Year and 2011 Midway Fire Rescue Officer of the Year; and

Whereas, in his time, he was an essential member on thousands of emergency calls ranging from house fires and motor vehicle accidents to technical rescues, haz‑mat calls, and medical calls. It would be impossible to tally the numerous lives he touched or saved during the years of his service; and

Whereas, long strengthened in his labors by the strong support of his family, his wife of more than twenty‑three years, Kelly Elliott, and his children, Kerah and Mason; he is the delighted grandfather of young Ryan Thomas, born May 15, 2013; and

Whereas, on the occasion of his retirement, Smokey Elliott’s colleagues will gather to honor him at a celebratory event to be held January 31, 2014; and

Whereas, grateful for the legacy of consistent commitment and excellence Lieutenant Elliott has bestowed on this great State, the Senate is pleased to wish him well as he enjoys retirement and trusts he will find much pleasure in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Lieutenant James “Smokey” Elliott, former Midway Fire Rescue firefighter paramedic, upon the occasion of his retirement, commend him for his twenty‑five years of dedicated service to the citizens of Georgetown County, and extend best wishes for much success and fulfillment in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Lieutenant James “Smokey” Elliott.

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