**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY UPON THEIR ONE HUNDRED FIFTY‑FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that on November 30, 2015, the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General will celebrate one hundred fifty‑one years of serving communities through fraternal, social, educational, and charitable objectives; and

Whereas, on November 30, 1864, in New York City, Baron Auguste Hugo de Bulow, Sovereign Grand Inspector General and an active member of the Supreme Council of France of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry (A.A.S.R.), organized a Supreme Council of the State of New York, which title was subsequently changed to the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, of the 33rd and last degree of the A.A.S.R. for the United States of America, its territories, and dependencies; and

Whereas, the first officers included Baron Auguste Hugo de Bulow, Sovereign Grand Commander; Patrick Reason, Lieutenant Grand Commander; Dr. Peter W. Ray, Adjoint Lieutenant Grand Commander; Ramson Wake, Grand Orator; George Lawrence, Grand Secretary; and Alexander Peters, Master of Ceremonies; and

Whereas, Illustrious Baron Auguste Hugo de Bulow served as Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council from 1864 to 1870, followed by Illustrious Patrick Reason from 1870 to 1879, Illustrious Dr. Peter W. Ray from 1879 to 1892, Illustrious A. B. Allen from 1892 to 1897, Illustrious D. F. Seville from 1897 to 1911, Illustrious H. M. Rennick from 1911 to 1920, Illustrious Dr. W. H. Benderson from 1920 to 1948, Illustrious Dr. Wm. J. Fitzpatrick from 1948 to 1973, Illustrious John H. Burns from 1973 to 1989, Illustrious James M. Boone from 1989 to 1995, and Illustrious James L. Headd from 1995 to 2011. Since 2011, the Illustrious Edward J. Chapman, Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, has served to lead the members; and

Whereas, Baron Auguste Hugo de Bulow conferred the Scottish Rite Degrees on four brethren and created them Deputy Inspectors General, 33rd degree: Dr. Peter W. Ray for New York, Jonathan Miller for Pennsylvania, Levi Anderson for Delaware, and Lemuel G. Griffin for Maryland; and

Whereas, on October 17, 1898, during the administration of D.F. Seville as Sovereign Grand Commander, the Supreme Council was incorporated in Washington, District of Columbia, under the name of National Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the A.A.S.R. 33rd degree of North America, bearing Instrument No. 3149 and recorded in Volume 8, folio 341, of the incorporation records of the District of Columbia; and

Whereas, the original incorporation was continued in perpetuity on October 14, 1948, by certificate of re‑incorporation of the National Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Scottish Rite 33rd degree of North America, bearing Instrument No. 32049 and recorded in Volume 69, folio 389, of the incorporation records of the District of Columbia, under which it operates at the present time; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is grateful for the legacy of service to communities that the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General has provided for more than a century and a half, and the members wish them continued success in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

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

That the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognizes and honors the members of the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry upon their one hundred fifty‑first anniversary.

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