**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF DR. CHARLES ROBERT PROPST OF SUMTER COUNTY, 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 Dr. Charles Robert Propst at the age of ninety on Wednesday, May 20, 2015; and

Whereas, born January 12, 1925 in Sumter, he was the youngest of three sons of Grier Caldwell Propst and Lois Sims Propst; and

Whereas, Dr. Propst was a 1942 graduate of Edmunds High School, where he was president of the student body. He attended The Citadel, where he earned academic honors and captained the basketball team, and he received a medical degree from the Medical College of South Carolina in 1948. After graduating from medical school, Dr. Propst furthered his medical training at Philadelphia General Hospital and Philadelphia Children’s Hospital; and

Whereas, a patriot, Charles Propst joined the navy during the Korean Conflict and served as a medical officer in the marines. He served in three Korean campaigns, including the Inchon Invasion, for which he received a bronze star and a Presidential Unit Citation; and

Whereas, after finishing his military service, Dr. Propst returned to Sumter where he began a distinguished thirty‑two year career practicing medicine in Sumter. He founded Sumter Pediatrics and served three years as medical director of Tuomey Medical Center before returning to school at MUSC in 1988, where he completed a one‑year fellowship in developmental pediatrics and learning disabilities; and

Whereas, Dr. Propst embarked on a teaching career after completing his fellowship, serving as a professor of pediatrics at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine for fifteen years. During that time, Dr. Propst developed a comprehensive developmental pediatric practice with a particular focus on attention deficit disorders while distinguishing himself as an outstanding mentor to young medical students. In 1993 he was presented with the Pediatric Residents’ Mentor Award, and in 1999 he became only the second faculty member to be inducted into the Pediatric Hall of Fame by the pediatric residents; and

Whereas, actively involved in the Sumter community, Dr. Propst served as a member of the District 17 school board for twenty‑five years, the last ten as chairman, and played a vital role in building Sumter High School and Patriot Hall, a community cultural center. Dr. Propst was a lifetime member of the Sumter Rotary Club where he was a past president, and was honored as Rotarian of the Year and as a Paul Harris Fellow. He was also a lifelong member of the First Presbyterian Church where he served as Deacon and Elder; and

Whereas, a lifelong member and supporter of the YMCA, where as a youth he broke several southeastern swimming records and won a national championship as captain and center of the basketball team, Dr. Propst served as a member of the local YMCA board of directors for sixteen years, including one year as president; and

Whereas, Charles Propst was married for sixty years to the late Helen Edwards Propst, and together they reared three wonderful children. Dr. Propst is survived by his children, Charles Sims Propst, Sr. and his wife, Anne, of Greenville, Barbara Propst Spell and her husband, David, of Sullivan’s Island, and Warren Edwards Propst and his wife, Donna, of Columbia. He is also survived by a brother, William Sims Propst, of Raleigh, and seven grandchildren, Charles Sims Propst, Jr. and his wife, Jess, Martha Riviere Propst, Helen Caldwell Spell, Celia Smoak Spell, Charles Robert Propst, James Dendy Propst, and Edwin Caldwell Propst. He was predeceased by a brother, Julian Caldwell Propst, and a sister‑in‑law, Nancy Claire Edwards; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the full life and rich legacy of Dr. Charles Robert Propst, a family man, community leader, physician, educator, patriot, and a friend to all, who never met a stranger. 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 Dr. Charles Robert Propst of Sumter County, and extend their deepest sympathy to his large and loving family and his many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the family of Dr. Charles Robert Propst.

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