**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH ROBINETTE “BEAU” BIDEN III OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly was saddened to learn of the death of the Honorable Joseph Robinette “Beau” Biden III, former attorney general of Delaware and a son of Vice President Joe Biden, at the age of forty‑six on Saturday, May 30, 2015; and

Whereas, a native of Wilmington, Delaware, Beau Biden was born on February 3, 1969, the older son of Vice President Biden and his first wife, Neilia Hunter; and

Whereas, in a Christmastime car accident in 1972, he lost his mother and his one‑year‑old sister, Naomi, while he and his younger brother, Hunter, survived though they were seriously injured; and

Whereas, Beau Biden’s father was sworn in as a United States senator from Delaware at his son’s hospital bedside a few weeks later, and throughout Beau Biden’s life, his father remained devotedly and affectionately by his side; and

Whereas, he graduated from Archmere Academy, the same Catholic high school as his father, and he earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a juris doctorate from Syracuse University College of Law; and

Whereas, from 1995 to 2004, Beau Biden served in the United States Department of Justice in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, before joining the law firm of Bifferato, Gentilotti, Biden & Balick as a partner in 2004; and

Whereas, in 2006, he was first elected to serve as Delaware’s attorney general by a margin of thirteen thousand votes, and when he was re‑elected in 2010, Mr. Biden increased his winning margin to one hundred forty‑nine thousand votes; and

Whereas, having joined the military in 2003 as a member of the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps with the Delaware Army National Guard, he was deployed to Iraq in 2008 as a captain to serve in an administrative post with the 261st Signal Brigade, working to establish the rule of law in war‑torn Kosovo; and

Whereas, Captain Biden returned briefly from Iraq in January 2009 to witness his father’s inauguration as Vice President. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Iraq, and he rose through the ranks to become a major in the Delaware National Guard; and

Whereas, as attorney general, he took aggressive measures against the perpetrators of child sex crimes, securing one hundred eighty convictions, and he prosecuted banks and mortgage lenders for their roles in perpetrating crooked loans; and

Whereas, to his union with his beloved wife, Hallie, were born two fine children, Natalie and Hunter; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is grateful for the remarkable life of Beau Biden and for the example of outstanding public service and sacrifice he set for all who knew him. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of the Honorable Joseph Robinette “Beau” Biden III of the State of Delaware and extend their deepest sympathy to his loving family and his many friends and colleagues.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Joseph Biden, Vice President of the United States of America.

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