**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND JOSHUA HILLARY AND JOSEPH HILLARY OF EDGEFIELD COUNTY FOR THEIR OVER FOUR DECADES OF GOSPEL MUSIC MINISTRY.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to note that the fine musical ministry of Joshua and Joseph Hillary of Edgefield has been blessing their listeners for over forty years; and

Whereas, born in Edgefield, twins Joshua and Joseph Hillary came into this world on May 16, 1951, the sons of Rufus Hillary, Sr., and Hattie Mims Hillary. The two boys started singing at an early age while “playing church” at home with other siblings. Their family musical experiences led them to the choir at Old Piney Grove Baptist Church in Edgefield County; and

Whereas, in 1972, the twins joined the Sensational Stars, a gospel group, with Joseph as lead singer and Joshua as lead guitarist and singer. They were well‑known throughout the Southeastern United States gospel circuit for songs such as “Can’t Hide, Sinner,” “Heavy Load,” and “I Heard a Mighty Rumble”; and

Whereas, they toured the gospel circuit with groups such as the Mighty Clouds of Joy, the Williams Brothers, the Canton Spirituals, Slim and the Supreme Angels, and Willie Banks & the Messengers; and

Whereas, Joshua and Joseph receive constant requests to perform at homegoing services, church anniversaries, and other events. For more than three decades, they have been offering their musical services to the community from the kindness of their hearts and the will to serve the Lord by sharing their gifts; and

Whereas, in addition, the twins have been affiliated with the Edgefield County Mass Choir from the beginning. They gave the choir stability from the start, leading by example, serving their Lord and Savior through praise and song; and

Whereas, grateful for the musical gifts of Joshua and Joseph Hillary, the members of the House take great pleasure in honoring their outstanding service to the citizens of this great State and beyond. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend Joshua Hillary and Joseph Hillary of Edgefield County for their over four decades of gospel music ministry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Joshua and Joseph Hillary.

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