**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR VETERANS OF THE BELTON AREA UPON THE OPENING OF THE BELTON AREA MUSEUM ASSOCIATION’S EXHIBIT *WAR STORIES* AT THE HISTORIC BELTON TRAIN DEPOT.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Belton Area Museum Association will open an exhibit entitled *War Stories* at the Historic Belton Train Depot on Sunday, April 24, 2016, to remember veterans who served in the branches of the United States Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard and the South Carolina National Guard during peace and wartime of the twentieth and twenty‑first centuries; and

Whereas, veterans in the Belton area have served their country during World War I from 1917 to 1918, World War II from 1941 to 1945, the Cold War, the Korean War from 1950 to 1953, the Vietnam War from 1961 to 1975, the American Invasion of Grenada in 1983, the American Invasion of Panama in 1989, the Persian Gulf War in 1990 to 1991, Operation Restore Hope from 1992 to 1993, the United Nations Operation in Somalia from 1993 to 1995, the American intervention in Haiti from 1994 to 1995, Operation Allied Force in 1999, peacekeeping in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1995 to 2002, Operation Joint Guardian from 1999 to the present, the War on Terrorism from 2001 to 2009, the Afghan War from 2001 to the present, and the Iraq War from 2003 to 2011; and

Whereas, men and women have served with distinction during all of these engagements, as well as during the nation’s Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican‑American War, the Civil War, Indian Wars, and the Spanish‑American War, oftentimes in the face of personal peril and exhibiting remarkable bravery, comradery, and patriotism; and

Whereas, the members of Belton’s American Legion Post 51 have supported American Legion Baseball since the 1970s, a league with a reputation as one of the most successful and tradition‑rich amateur athletic leagues in the nation; and

Whereas, the members of American Legion Post 51 have continued to benefit their community through support and funding for representatives to Palmetto Girls’ State and Palmetto Boys’ State from Belton‑Honea Path High School; and

Whereas, veterans who are members of American Legion Post 51 serve the community and support the Belton Veteran’s Memorial, commemorating all of Belton’s fallen soldiers; and

Whereas, with deep appreciation, the South Carolina House of Representatives honors, on behalf of all South Carolinians, the great sacrifice that men and women of the United States Armed Forces make for the ideals of liberty and justice so richly enjoyed in this nation. 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 honor veterans of the Belton area upon the opening of the Belton Area Museum Association’s exhibit *War Stories* at the Historic Belton Train Depot.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the veterans of the Belton area.

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