**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND COMMEND DELORES AND ROGER RUCKER FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS TO SUPPORT VETERANS AND ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS OF OUR NATION’S ARMED FORCES.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina Senate pauses in its deliberations to express gratitude to Delores and Roger Rucker for their continued support of those who have served in our nation’s armed forces; and

Whereas, both veterans themselves, Delores and Roger Rucker are driven to aid veterans and active service members in a multitude of ways, including as financial supporters of the Dang It Doll Program through which these much sought after dolls are sent all over the world to our servicemen and servicewomen; and

Whereas, they are also leaders in the Task Force Marshall Navy IA Program, devoting not only their financial resources, but offering their time and energies at each deployment every three weeks, giving encouragement and support to the deploying sailors; and

Whereas, for sailors deploying at Thanksgiving, the Ruckers make the holiday special by serving them dinner, and at Christmas, they organize a Throw-down Hoedown Pig Pickin at the National Guard Armory. Roger helps secure JrROTC participation at these events; and

Whereas, Delores is an active member of the Granby Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Lexington, South Carolina, and she epitomizes the values of the DAR through her extensive volunteer work, for those serving our country and defending our freedom in the armed forces and for our veterans; and

Whereas, the Wreaths Across America program at Fort Jackson National Cemetery owes its outstanding participation of Midlands-area high school and college students to Delores, who coordinates their involvement in this meaningful, respectful ceremony that honors the resting places of our veterans every year. Meanwhile, Roger provides invaluable assistance, especially the day of the program, to ensure that the event is a success. In 2018, 16 high school JrROTC units in the Midlands area and USC ROTC are participating, totaling over 450 students; and

Whereas, Delores and Roger are also heavily involved in ministering to the veterans in their community. Delores administers the sacrament of Holy Communion to veterans in nursing homes, and Roger regularly checks on homebound veterans to ensure their basic needs are being met, as well as both providing transportation as needed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor and commend Delores and Roger Rucker for their tireless efforts to support veterans and active service members of our nation’s armed forces.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Delores and Roger Rucker.

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