**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR GREENVILLE’S WILLIAM F. SCHMIDT III, M.D., PH.D., A DIRECTOR AND FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL COLLABORATIVE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RECENT RETIREMENT FROM THE ORGANIZATION, TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL, AND TO WISH HIM HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, with great pleasure, the South Carolina Senate honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great state’s citizenry. Greenville’s Dr. William F. Schmidt III, retiring director and founding member of the South Carolina Children’s Hospital Collaborative (SCCHC), stands among their number as an outstanding public benefactor, one much admired in his roles as medical doctor, teacher, and administrator; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, Dr. Schmidt received his Ph.D. in 1975 from the Duke University Department of Physiology and Pharmacology and his medical degree from Duke University School of Medicine in 1976. After a pediatric residency with Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Dr. Schmidt finished a pediatric hematology fellowship at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania. In 1994, he completed the University of North Carolina Comphealth/Kron Scholars Program on Management in Health Care for Physician Executives; and

Whereas, with a long, distinguished career to his credit, Dr. Schmidt is now retired from his post as medical director for Children’s Hospital at Greenville Health System (GHS). He also is retired from GHS as chair, Department of Pediatrics (now chair emeritus); chief clinical officer, Western Region; member, Medical Staff Executive Committee; and chief of Pediatric Services. In addition, this committed physician stepped down from membership in the South Carolina Children’s Hospital Collaborative in November 2017. Through his work with the SCCHC over the years, he has been a public policy leader in developing a common legislative agenda and opportunities to share best practice across the State. He will be missed in all these endeavors; however, he will continue to serve as vice president of development, GHS Health Sciences Center; pediatric hematologist‑oncologist, GHS Children’s Hospital; professor of pediatrics, USC School of Medicine Greenville; and adjunct professor of bioengineering, Clemson University; and

Whereas, the author of many professional papers and abstracts, Dr. Schmidt is also a member of nearly twenty professional societies. He gives his time and support generously to local organizations such as the children’s theatre, Ronald McDonald House, Institute for Child Success, and United Way. As a patriotic American, he served two tours of duty in Vietnam as a U.S. Navy hospital corpsman; and

Whereas, Dr. Schmidt’s service over the past thirty‑seven years and the passion he has displayed while treating South Carolina’s critically ill children have been exemplary. His determination to discover innovative techniques for the treatment of these children has earned him the love and respect of all who know him. To recognize Dr. Schmidt for his many years of service, the SCCHC will host a luncheon in his honor on May 3, 2018, at which time he also will receive the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian award granted by the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, grateful for the legacy of excellence Dr. Schmidt has bestowed on the people of South Carolina, the Senate is pleased that, although he has retired from the SCCHC and other groups, he will continue to serve in various ways in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor Greenville’s William F. Schmidt III, M.D., Ph.D., a director and founding member of the South Carolina Children’s Hospital Collaborative, upon the occasion of his recent retirement from the organization, commend him for his many years of dedicated service as a medical professional, and wish him happiness and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. William F. Schmidt III.

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