**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JEFF ALLEN, IRMO FIRE MARSHAL, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER TWENTY‑TWO YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to Jeff Allen for his significant contributions to the Irmo Fire District; and

Whereas, Jeff Allen retired at the end of 2016 after an extensive career in code enforcement and arson investigation, the last twenty‑two years of which have been as the distinguished and highly‑regarded fire marshal of Irmo; and

Whereas, he served as a certified police officer with the Irmo Fire District for twelve years, and he began his volunteer service with the Irmo Fire District in 1994 and became the full‑time fire marshal in 1997; and

Whereas, Fire Marshal Allen’s career has coincided with the steady growth of Irmo’s population and with an ever increasing number of calls to the Fire District, which now total more than three thousand annually; and

Whereas, in spite of limited funding, a plight of many other local fire departments, he acquired vital grants for his district and enjoyed a strong working relationship with the town of Irmo and the Irmo Police Department; and

Whereas, as a nationally certified instructor through Oklahoma State University, Fire Marshal Allen has served as an adjunct professor of fire and arson investigation and fire code enforcement at the South Carolina Fire Academy and as a guest instructor of arson investigation at the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy; and

Whereas, he has served his profession as the founder of the Midlands Fire Marshals Association, as a member of the board of directors of the South Carolina State Firefighters’ Foundation and the Irmo Fire District Foundation, and as a member of the South Carolina Firefighters Legislative committee; and

Whereas, deeply committed to his community, Fire Marshal Allen has served on the advisory board for Safe Kids Midlands/Buckle Buddies of Children’s Hospital since 1998, and on the board of directors of the South Carolina Children’s Trust from 2013 to 2016; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are grateful for the years of unparalleled dedication that Fire Marshal Jeff Allen has devoted to the Irmo Fire District and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Jeff Allen, Irmo Fire Marshal, upon the occasion of his retirement after twenty‑two years of outstanding service, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Jeff Allen, Irmo Fire Marshal.

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