**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND DON MURFIN OF YORK COUNTY FOR HIS WORK AS FOUNDER AND OPERATOR OF THE COMMUNITY CAFES IN FORT MILL AND LAKE WYLIE AND FOR WINNING AARP SOUTH CAROLINA’S COVETED ANDRUS AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that, for his labors in founding and operating three Community Cafes, Don Murfin of York County has been presented the AARP South Carolina Andrus Award, the highest volunteer tribute granted by AARP South Carolina. Don Murfin has abundantly proven himself worthy of this signal honor, which recognizes outstanding individuals who share their experience, talents, and skills to enrich the lives of others; and

Whereas, in preparation for his career, Don majored in chemistry at the University of Iowa and upon graduation took a position as a chemist at a prestigious Ohio company, where he quickly rose through the ranks; and

Whereas, his career continued to flourish. In 1978, he was offered the opportunity to manage a venture capital program, which he did until 1988, when he set out to start a venture capital firm of his own. When he moved to York County from northeast Ohio in February 2008, he brought that successful business with him and continued it for a few years; and

Whereas, in December 2009, Don and his wife attended a meeting of the Charlotte Christian Chamber, where he began to accept his calling to start a “soup kitchen” type of operation. Within a few weeks, he had devised a complete business plan, and in 2010 he founded the Community Cafe in Fort Mill to partner with local churches in operating cafes open to everyone in the community; and

Whereas, the meals are free to all comers, and those who can afford to make a donation pay for those who cannot. This practice exemplifies the goal of neighbors helping neighbors, “Building a Community That Cares So All May Eat.” Managed totally by volunteers, the Community Cafe incurs no administrative costs; and

Whereas, Head Chef Don Murfin’s love of cooking goes back a long way. As early as grade school, he was involved in the Stow, Ohio, 4H, where his chocolate cookies won him a prize and a trip to the Ohio State Fair. He now puts his cooking expertise to use on a somewhat larger scale in serving his community; and

Whereas, this Fort Mill resident heads a total of three Community Cafes, two hosted by churches in Fort Mill, the third hosted by a Lake Wylie church; and

Whereas, in accomplishing this special work God has given him to do, Don finds his strongest support in his family. He and his lovely wife, Linda, have five children, thirteen grandchildren, and two spoiled canines; and

Whereas, the House takes great pleasure in celebrating the selfless service of Don Murfin and congratulates him on so deservedly receiving the Andrus Award. 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 Don Murfin of York County for his work as founder and operator of the Community Cafes in Fort Mill and Lake Wylie and for winning AARP South Carolina’s coveted Andrus Award for Community Service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Don Murfin.

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