**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LARK JONES, MAYOR OF NORTH AUGUSTA, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY‑TWO YEARS OF EXEMPLARY 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 House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to Mayor Lark Jones upon the occasion of his retirement in May of 2017 and for his significant contributions to the City of North Augusta and the State; and

Whereas, in his childhood, Lark, along with his brother, Lance, and their father, “Bill Jones from Dodge City,” lived around the corner from our colleague in the House, the Honorable Bill Hixon, and the three young lads grew to be lifelong friends; and

Whereas, first elected to the North Augusta City Council on November 5, 1985, Mr. Jones served continuously until May of 1997. He was honored with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting every year he served on the council; and

Whereas, on April 29, 1997, he was elected as mayor and served continuously until May of 2017. Under his leadership, the city never experienced a millage increase, even while the city expanded its budget and approved over sixty million dollars in capital construction projects, which included a municipal building, Riverview Park, a water treatment plant, and a fire station. Mayor Jones leant his substantial support for the Hammond’s Ferry Soccer Complex; and

Whereas, a dedicated and visionary leader, he faithfully commended the city’s employees for their achievements and carried his cheerful mien to the city offices; and

Whereas, Mayor Jones actively expressed his devotion to his community through participation in activities at the Riverview Park Activities Center and as a loyal fan of North Augusta High School baseball and the South Carolina Gamecocks; and

Whereas, he inaugurated the North Augusta Mayor’s Prayer Luncheon, which has included a number of distinguished speakers over the years and which has brought the city together for spiritual guidance; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives deeply appreciates the enduring commitment that Mayor Jones has rendered in his service to the City of North Augusta, to the State, and to the citizens of South Carolina. 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 Lark Jones, Mayor of North Augusta, upon the occasion of his retirement after thirty‑two years of exemplary 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 Mayor Lark Jones.

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