**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR RONNIE BAILES, OWNER OF THE MEN’S SHOP IN YORK, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AND THE STORE’S CLOSING AFTER MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE YORK COMMUNITY AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives have learned that Ronnie Bailes will begin a well‑deserved retirement after many years as owner of York’s The Men’s Shop, a premier and highly‑regarded provider of men’s clothing started by his parents seven decades ago after World War II; and

Whereas, the Bailes family launched into business with a women’s shop on Congress Street in the heart of the city and later moved to men’s clothing, remaining a fixture of York’s retail establishment for seventy years. The entire city of York and others from farther away found natty suits and sharp‑creased slacks and other fine garments at the store, all in the best of taste and style; and

Whereas, fashions changed over the decades, but a great suit or tie never went out of style at The Men’s Shop; and

Whereas, during a January 10, 2018, celebration of the shop before a packed crowd of York residents, Mayor Eddie Lee presented Ronnie and his wife, Martie; his sisters, Hazel and Norma; and his mother, Ruby, who was the store’s first seamstress, with a proclamation declaring January 11, 2018, as The Men’s Shop Day in York, South Carolina; and

Whereas, at the celebration, Mayor Lee also bestowed on Ronnie a key to the city, saying, “I am the mayor of York, but Ronnie Bailes is the mayor of Main Street”; and

Whereas, since Ronnie is closing the store at his retirement, the citizens of York are saying farewell to a favorite downtown institution in that city; and

Whereas, Ronnie has enjoyed a special bond with all his customers, and they are deeply sorry to see him close the family store; and

Whereas, although Ronnie, as well as his family, will miss his many and valued customers, he is grateful that York has supported The Men’s Shop throughout so many years; and

Whereas, appreciative of the legacy of consistent commitment and excellence Ronnie Bailes has bestowed on the people of South Carolina, most particularly the citizens of York, the House of Representatives takes great pleasure in wishing him well as he enters retirement and trusts he will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. 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 Ronnie Bailes, owner of The Men’s Shop in York, upon the occasion of his retirement and the store’s closing after many years of outstanding service to the York community 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 Ronnie Bailes.

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