**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND COMMEND JEFF KEFALOS FOR AN EXEMPLARY CAREER AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS IN HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina pause in their deliberations to congratulate Jeff Kefalos for a career marked with great success; and

Whereas, Jeff Kefalos has been involved in South Carolina tennis for over forty years in a variety of roles including playing, coaching, teaching, and directing a major tennis center in Columbia; and

Whereas, he arrived in Columbia from West Virginia in 1972 to play tennis for the University of South Carolina Gamecocks. During his time as a player, he was named the team’s Most Valuable Player four times and team captain three times. He was known for his outstanding groundstrokes and return of serve, allowing him to compile a 104‑14 singles mark and an 81‑15 doubles mark, which remained the record at USC until 2000; and

Whereas, in 1976, he graduated as a scholar‑athlete with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration. A year later, he became the coach of the USC women’s team in 1977; and

Whereas, during the six seasons he was head coach, his teams compiled a 127‑34 record and were ranked twelfth or higher in the nation five times; and

Whereas, also in 1977, he became the director of the Columbia Tennis Center. His responsibilities included directing the city’s adult and junior tennis leagues, as well as hosting and directing several large state, sectional, and national tournaments. While in this role, he has been instrumental in developing top junior talent in the Midlands. Many of the recipients of his tutelage have achieved high state, section, and national rankings and earned college tennis scholarships; and

Whereas, in 1993, Jeff returned to the Gamecocks as assistant coach to the men’s tennis team for Coach Kent Demars, and in 1998, he was named ITA National Assistant Coach of the Year. During his sixteen seasons as the men’s assistant coach, he has been an integral part of the recruiting and development of many of the program’s best players. Jeff has helped mentor two All‑Americans, one ITA scholar All‑American, and five student‑athletes who earned a total of ten All‑SEC honors; and

Whereas, his career was punctuated by his 2011 induction into the University of South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame and his 2014 induction into the State of South Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Jeff is married to the love of his life, Betsi, and has two cherished adult children, Lance and Rawlins; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina applaud Jeff’s phenomenal career and offer their hopes for continued success throughout his life. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor and commend Jeff Kefalos for an exemplary career and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Jeff Kefalos.

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