**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND COMMEND JOHN PERRY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER OVER TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPSTATE AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives deem it altogether fitting and appropriate to pause in their deliberations to offer an ovation to John Perry on the occasion of his retirement after an exemplary career with the University of South Carolina Upstate; and

Whereas, in 2001, John Perry was hired as Vice Chancellor for Advancement. He served as Chief Advancement Officer and Executive Director of the Carolina Piedmont Foundation. While in this role, he accomplished many things, including successfully leading two capital campaigns that generated sixteen million dollars in gifts, and directing the purchase and acquisition of approximately sixty additional acres for the campus, thus expanding the university’s footprint to three hundred thirty acres for its one hundred eighty‑five million dollar master plan, which included the acquisition of property for the I‑585 upgrade in 2007. Furthermore, he directed two limited liability companies that were responsible for building the Palmetto House, USC Upstate’s first residence hall, and the George Dean Johnson, Jr., College of Business and Economics, a thirty million dollar facility in downtown Spartanburg; and

Whereas, Mr. Perry assumed the role of Executive Director of University Boards and Public Affairs in 2008. His responsibilities included serving as staff liaison to the Spartanburg County Commission for Higher Education, where he kept the seventeen‑member board abreast of legislative activities and chaired the Governmental Affairs Committee; serving as Governmental Affairs Officer, where, as an insightful government relations strategist, he built and managed relationships with local, state, and federal officials; performing lobbying activities in Columbia and working with the Spartanburg County Delegation for seventeen years, along with other roles; and

Whereas, in 2014, Mr. Perry was awarded the 2014 Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Circle of Excellence Gold Award for the “Parity for Students of USC Upstate, USC Aiken, and USC Beaufort” advocacy campaign; and

Whereas, Mr. Perry further served the community as president of the Spartanburg Rotary Club and the Charles Lea Center Board of Directors, and as a member of the Northside Advisory Committee; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives are grateful for the illustrious career of John Perry and wish him much happiness in his well‑deserved retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, honor and commend John Perry on the occasion of his retirement after over twenty years of service to the University of South Carolina Upstate and wish him much success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to John Perry.

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