**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE INTERSECTION OF UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 123 AND SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 93 IN PICKENS COUNTY “DR. B.R. SKELTON INTERCHANGE” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS LOCATION CONTAINING THIS DESIGNATION.

Whereas, born and raised in South Carolina’s Upcountry, the Honorable Dr. B.R. Skelton has spent his life in public service for the betterment of the citizens of his district and the State; and

Whereas, born in Westminster, SC, the son of B.C. and Hattie Skelton, Dr. Skelton earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Clemson University in 1957 and 1958 respectively, and earned a doctorate degree from Duke University in 1964. He went on to serve twenty‑eight years as a professor of economics at Clemson University and is now its Emeritus Professor of Economics. He also worked as an arbitrator/mediator and is a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators; and

Whereas, Dr. Skelton’s foray into public service began in 1971 when he was elected to the Clemson City Council. Here he was instrumental in securing the first street lights in the City of Clemson, mediated acquisition of the East Clemson Water District by the city, and worked to extend sewer service to new housing developments in the city; and

Whereas, Professor Skelton served on the Pickens County Planning Commission in the 1980s, and was chairman of the Pickens County Transportation “C” Fund Committee, where he made funding for turning lanes at area schools a priority. Dr. Skelton was a member of the Alliance Pickens Board and chairman of the Pickens County Commerce Park Subcommittee. In this leadership role he negotiated and secured funding from the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) for the Cartee Road interchange, which made possible the Pickens County Commerce Park. When the project came in under budget, Dr. Skelton negotiated with SCDOT to earmark remaining funds to replace the Old Central Road Bridge over the railroad in Central, giving access to school buses and fire trucks. He currently serves on the Pickens County Transportation Committee; and

Whereas, Dr. Skelton was named South Carolina Ambassador for Economic Development for 2001, and served a stint as chairman of Helping Hands of Clemson’s board of directors; and

Whereas, Dr. Skelton continued his legacy of public service as a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives from 2002 to 2014. A member of the House Education and Public Works committee, he chaired its Higher Education Subcommittee. He was the legislative appointee to the Transportation Committee of National Conference of State Legislatures and to the Education Committee of the Southern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments. Dr. Skelton also served on the Property Tax Study Committee, the Lieutenant Governor’s Committee on Aging, the Retirement System Ad Hoc Study Committee, the Agency Head Salary Committee, and was a member of the influential House Ways and Means Committee; and

Whereas, the professor was honored with the Clemson University Board of Visitors Legislative Leadership Award in 2011 and the South Carolina Education Association’s Friend of Education Award in 2013; and

Whereas, Dr. Skelton and his wife, Vickie, have been married for twenty‑seven years and are active members of First Baptist Church in Clemson. Their four children are Ginger, now deceased, Dana, Will, and John, and they have one grandchild, Jack Skelton; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that we recognize the Honorable Dr. B.R. Skelton, a native son who has dedicated his life to serving his district and the State of South Carolina, by naming the Intersection of United Sates Highway 123 and South Carolina Highway 93 in Pickens County in his honor. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That members of the South Carolina General Assembly request the Department of Transportation name the intersection of United States Highway 123 and South Carolina Highway 93 in Pickens County “Dr. B.R. Skelton Interchange” and erect appropriate markers or signs at this location containing this designation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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