**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY LANCE CORPORAL CHRISTOPHER S. FOWLKES OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE DEEPEST APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, on behalf of all South Carolinians, acknowledge with deep appreciation the great sacrifice that the men and women of the United States Armed Forces make for the ideals of freedom and justice, which are so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

Whereas, Lance Corporal Christopher S. Fowlkes of the United States Marine Corps stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by their country; and

Whereas, as a committed serviceman, Lance Corporal Christopher S. Fowlkes was assigned to the 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Answering the call of his country, he left his family and home in Gaffney to serve abroad as a part of the war on terror. His first tour of duty, already completed, had taken him to Iraq; for this second tour, he was deployed to Afghanistan; and

Whereas, on September 10, 2009, at the age of twenty, Lance Corporal Fowlkes lost his life for the cause of freedom, dying from wounds sustained on September third in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, when he and four other soldiers encountered an improvised explosive device; and

Whereas, there is no greater or more courageous sacrifice a man can make than to lay down his life for a noble cause, as Lance Corporal Christopher S. Fowlkes has done, and to honor his valor, Lance Corporal Fowlkes has been named a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor’s Palmetto Patriot Award; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly counts it a great privilege to remember Lance Corporal Christopher S. Fowlkes, one of the Palmetto State’s finest, and the members with one voice offer their grateful thanks to Almighty God for the service and ultimate sacrifice of this heroic son of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Lance Corporal Christopher S. Fowlkes of the United States Marine Corps while he was serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan, and express to his family the deepest appreciation of a grateful State and nation for his life, sacrifice, and service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Lance Corporal Christopher S. Fowlkes.

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