**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPON THE PASSING OF MICHAEL J. MUNGO OF COLUMBIA AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Michael J. Mungo of Columbia on April 11, 2010, at the venerable age of eighty‑two; and

Whereas, one of Columbia’s most successful businessmen, he always wanted to be remembered not for any of the more than fifty subdivisions he developed that shaped suburban Columbia, but rather for what those subdivisions enabled him to do for Columbia. His legacy is his passionate support for the poor, including the education of so many and his faithful commitment to the church; and

Whereas, born April 7, 1928, in Kershaw County, he was the son of the late Whiteford and Beatrice Mungo. After graduating from Rock Hill High School, he joined the U.S. Army Corps, from which he was honorably discharged in 1947. Knowing that an education would be the key to his success, he worked his way through the University of South Carolina (USC) by starting and running a successful drywall business and completed his degree in only two and a half years; and

Whereas, Mr. Mungo married Mary Catherine Meech in 1950. He worked for the C.W. Haynes Realty Company as their sales manager until he felt compelled by patriotic duty to enlist with the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. After the war, he returned home and started the Michael J. Mungo Company in 1954. He was largely responsible for the development of Irmo/St. Andrews, as well as for bringing water and sewer utility service to the area. He also developed neighborhoods such as Whitehall and Coldstream, which included Coldstream Country Club and the area’s first golf course; and

Whereas, after the death of his wife in 1978, Mr. Mungo retired at the age of fifty to pursue a life of philanthropy, leaving the company to sons Stewart and Steven; and

Whereas, over the next thirty years, he concentrated on building the Michael J. Mungo Foundation, which supports needy individuals and established charities. Having grown up poor, he felt a tremendous need to help others in similar circumstances. He understood the value of his own education and donated countless scholarships for disadvantaged youth so they might have a chance to change their lives just as he had done. He also encouraged those who teach by establishing the prestigious Michael J. Mungo Distinguished Professor Award, given annually at the University of South Carolina to an outstanding teacher of undergraduate courses; and

Whereas, the recipient of numerous awards recognizing his dedication to the community and the State, he received the Order of the Palmetto in 1996, and in 1997 the National Society of Fund‑Raising Executives honored him as its Outstanding Philanthropist; and

Whereas, in 1969, Mr. Mungo was the South Carolina chairman of the United Negro College Fund. He created the Governor’s Advisory Commission on Housing, now the South Carolina Housing Authority. He worked with the Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman to develop and establish the Statewide Homes Foundation, a self‑help organization in the African‑American community for development of homes. He was a founding board member for Harvest Hope Food Bank and provided Providence Home with its first facility; and

Whereas, in addition, he assisted charities such as the Cooperative Ministry, Christ Central Ministries, HomeWorks, Sharing God’s Love, SCOA Cares, and the Free Medical Clinic and financially supported the training of clergy as a way to help keep God’s Word alive in a troubled world. He was devoted to the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd and supported numerous Episcopal diocesan charities, including its mission in Haiti and Camp Gravitt; and

Whereas, Mr. Mungo was an ardent supporter of the University of South Carolina. As the longest‑standing board of trustees member, he served as chairman from 1988 to 1992 and at the time of his death was serving as a member of the Executive, Fiscal Policy, and Intercollegiate Athletic committees. He played a pivotal role in negotiating USC into the Southeastern Conference (SEC), in acknowledgement of which the football team gave him the game ball after their first SEC win; and

Whereas, a loving patriarch to his children and grandchildren, he was proud of how his sons worked so well together and continued to grow the business. He treasured nature, especially his gardens, for which he had a tremendous eye for detail. He would tell friends his vice was clothes and that “nothing is better than family, friends, fishing, great food, and a good book”; and

Whereas, preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Meech Mungo, as well as his second wife, Jennifer Brewer Mungo, he leaves to cherish his memory sons and daughters‑in‑law Stewart and Deloris Mungo and their children, Matthew (Mary Grace) and Mary; Steven and Maria Mungo and their children, Ward and Emily; and a host of other relatives and friends. He will be missed. 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, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Michael J. Mungo of Columbia and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Stewart Mungo for the family.

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