**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MASTER CHIEF CHARLES N. MCKENZIE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES NAVY, AND TO COMMEND HIM FOR MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR NATION, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, with great pleasure the members of the South Carolina Senate honor individuals who give sacrificially and tirelessly of themselves for the benefit of the citizens of this great nation; and

Whereas, after almost thirty years of dedicated service in the United States Navy that has spanned five decades, Master Chief Charles N. McKenzie will begin a much deserved retirement in May of 2010; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that Master Chief McKenzie will be honored on May 10, 2010, at American Legion Post 6 in Columbia to wish him well as he begins his retirement; and

Whereas, subsequent to his enlistment in the United States Navy in March 1968, Charles McKenzie was sent to Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut, and served on the USS Tirante and the USS Cobbler he left the Navy in 1974; and

Whereas, he re‑enlisted in the United States Naval Reserve in 1989 and has served three tours of duty with the Seabees in Guantanamo, Cuba, and three tours in Iraq, including two with the Seabees and one with the United States Army; and

Whereas, since 2008 he has been the senior enlisted advisor to the Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center Detachment at Fort Jackson, called Task Force Marshall, which prepares Navy personnel deploying for missions in support of the Global War on Terrorism; and

Whereas, his duties have included mentoring junior sailors, coordinating volunteers who meet and greet the Navy personnel undergoing this training, and overseeing the coordination and tracking and transportation movements of students to their ultimate destination; and

Whereas, the recipient of the esteemed Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Master Chief McKenzie disarms his colleagues with his witty sense of humor and genuine kindness; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased that Master Chief Charles N. McKenzie will begin a well‑earned retirement and are grateful for the pride he has brought to the United States Navy and to our fine State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Master Chief Charles N. McKenzie, upon the occasion of his retirement from the United States Navy, and commend him for many years of dedicated service to our nation, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Master Chief Charles N. McKenzie.

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