**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JAY HAAS, CHAMPION GOLFER, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE WORLD OF PROFESSIONAL GOLF, AND TO WISH HIM WELL IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, born December 2, 1953, in St. Louis, Missouri and raised in Belleview, Illinois, Jay Dean Haas commands respect across the nation and around the world as an American professional golfer; and

Whereas, currently a resident of Greer, near wife Jan’s hometown, Greenville, he attended Wake Forest University and was a member of the NCAA Championship team of the middle 1970s that *Golf World* has called “the greatest college team of all time.” He won the individual championship in 1975 and turned professional in 1976; and

Whereas, Mr. Haas has had a solid career on the PGA Tour, winning nine times between 1978 and 1993. He had a resurgence in 2003, when he finished in the top thirty on the money list for the first time since 1995 and made the United States Presidents Cup team. The following year he was one of Hal Sutton’s two captain’s picks for the Ryder Cup and made his third appearance in that event; and

Whereas, he was eligible to play in Champions Tour events from the start of the 2004 season, and he lost to Hale Irwin by one stroke at the Senior PGA Championship in his first appearance at that level. He has still featured in the top twenty of the Official World Golf Rankings after his fiftieth birthday; and

Whereas, in 2005, he won twice on the Champions Tour, while continuing to play regularly on the PGA Tour. In April 2006, he won back‑to‑back events on the Champions Tour, and the following month he won a playoff at the Senior PGA Championship to claim his first senior major. He went on to top the 2006 Champions Tour money list and was named the Champions Tour Player of the Year in 2006, as well. Mr. Haas won the 2008 Charles Schwab Cup, making two out of the last three cups his own; and

Whereas, after winning the Greater Hickory Classic at Rock Barn in September 2009, Jay Haas won his third senior major and fourteenth Champions Tour event in October at the Constellation Energy Senior Players Championship; and

Whereas, Mr. Haas comes from a distinguished family of golfers. He is a nephew of 1968 Masters winner Bob Goalby and has several other relations in golf, including his second son, Bill, who was a PGA Tour rookie in 2006. Oldest son Jay, Jr., brother Jerry Haas, and brother‑in‑law Dillard Pruitt also played on the PGA Tour; and

Whereas, he was voted the 2006 Bob Jones Award, the highest honor given by the United States Golf Association in recognition of distinguished sportsmanship in golf. In February 2005, he received the Payne Stewart Award, and in April 2005 he received the Murray Award for his cooperation with the media. He has made the cut five hundred ninety‑two times in the PGA Tour, more than any other player; and

Whereas, his list of victories is extensive. Highlights include a number of PGA Tour wins, such as the 1988 Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, 1992 Federal Express St. Jude Classic, and 1993 H.E.B. Texas Open. In the Champions Tour, he has taken home the top prize twice, in the 2006 and 2008 Senior PGA Championship; and

Whereas, most recently, in 2009 he won multiple titles for a fifth straight year and finished fourth in official earnings and fifth in the Charles Schwab Cup race; and

Whereas, the Senate takes great pleasure in commending Jay Haas on his distinguished career in professional golf, and the members look forward to hearing of his further accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Jay Haas, champion golfer, for his outstanding achievements in the world of professional golf, and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Jay Haas.

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