**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. BUZZ ALDRIN, RETIRED UNITED STATES AIR FORCE PILOT AND NASA ASTRONAUT, AND TO WELCOME HIM TO THE PALMETTO STATE FOR THE MYRTLE BEACH MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina are pleased to learn that Dr. Buzz Aldrin will visit the Palmetto State to serve as Grand Marshal for the Myrtle Beach Memorial Day Parade on Saturday, May 29, 2010; and

Whereas, born on January 20, 1930, in Montclair, New Jersey, Buzz Aldrin earned a bachelor of science from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1951 and a doctorate of science in astronautics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and

Whereas, commissioned as an officer in the United States Air Force, he flew sixty‑six combat missions during the Korean War in F‑86 Sabres and shot down two MiG‑15 aircraft; and

Whereas, Buzz Aldrin became a member of the third group of astronauts named by NASA in October 1963 and in 1966 flew on the Gemini 12 spacecraft that brought the Gemini Program to a successful conclusion; and

Whereas, as the lunar‑module pilot for Apollo 11 in 1969, he followed Neil Armstrong to exit the first manned lunar landing and became the second human to set foot on the moon; and

Whereas, by the time he retired from NASA in 1971, he had logged two hundred eighty‑nine hours and fifty‑three minutes in space, of which seven hours and fifty‑two minutes were outside the spacecraft in extravehicular activity (EVA); and

Whereas, he has received numerous decorations and commendations, including the Presidential Medal for Freedom in 1969, the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and two awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross; and

Whereas, in 1972, he authored an autobiography entitled *Return to Earth* and later a book about the Apollo Program, *Men from Earth*, and another autobiography in 2009 entitled *Magnificent Desolation*; and

Whereas, Dr. Aldrin founded the nonprofit ShareSpace to share the wonders of space with children of all ages and to foster affordable space travel opportunities for all, and he currently serves as the president of Starcraft Enterprise in Laguna Beach, California; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are grateful for the work of Dr. Buzz Aldrin, which has expanded the horizons of all Americans, and are pleased to welcome him to the Palmetto State for the Myrtle Beach Memorial Day Parade to honor the sacrifice of Americans who have died in our nation’s service. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, honor the life achievements of Dr. Buzz Aldrin, retired United States Air Force pilot and NASA astronaut, and welcome him to the Palmetto State for the Myrtle Beach Memorial Day Parade.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Buzz Aldrin.

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