**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF JEDBURG ROAD IN BERKELEY COUNTY FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 26 TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 176 “FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL FRENCH ROAD” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS ROAD THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL FRENCH ROAD”.

Whereas, at least twenty Charleston firefighters rushed into the monster fire on the Savannah Highway early on the night of June 18, 2007, intent on rescuing employees said to be trapped inside the flaming structure; and

Whereas, three firefighters from Fire Station 10 did not return to their station, while only one firefighter from Ashley Hall Plantation Road’s Engine 16 came out alive, and none from Engine 19 survived the horror of a rapidly collapsing roof; and

Whereas, seasoned firefighters on the scene are still shocked and dismayed by the overwhelming speed of the conflagration, and by the distressing loss of their comrades in courage; and

Whereas, one of the fearless men who died in the tragic blaze was Assistant Engineer Michael French who had firefighting “in his blood”, so much so that he also volunteered as a captain of Berkeley County’s Pine Ridge Fire Department; and

Whereas, he was the devoted husband to his wife, Donna. The father of a young son and a young daughter, he loved to fish the state’s lakes and to hunt deer and turkey; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper for the members of the General Assembly to pay a lasting tribute to Assistant Engineer Michael French by naming a portion of Jedburg Road in Berkeley County in his honor. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly request that the Department of Transportation name the portion of Jedburg Road in Berkeley County from its intersection with Interstate Highway 26 to its intersection with United States Highway 176 “Firefighter Michael French Road” and erect appropriate markers or signs along this road that contain the words “Firefighter Michael French Road”.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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