**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FLAG, TO DECLARE JANUARY 28, 2011, AS “SOUTH CAROLINA FLAG DAY”, TO REQUEST THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INTERPRETIVE AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS AT THE FORT MOULTRIE NATIONAL MONUMENT, AND TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS TO PARTICIPATE.

Whereas, on December 21, 1860, the day after South Carolina’s secession from the Union, both houses of the legislature reconvened in Hibernian Hall in Charleston. The next day, Representative Plowden C.J. Weston introduced a resolution for a joint House and Senate committee to create a National Flag or Ensign of South Carolina; and

Whereas, in January 1861, a joint committee was established and on the 28th, our current State Flag was officially adopted; and

Whereas, the State Flag dates back to 1765 when opponents of the Stamp Act marched in protest behind a blue flag bearing three white crescents; and

Whereas, on January 22, 1776, Colonel William Moultrie was asked by the Revolutionary Council of Safety to design a flag to be used by the 1st and 2nd South Carolina Regiments. Colonel Moultrie’s design had the blue of the militia’s uniforms and the crescent from the emblem on their caps; and

Whereas, the palmetto tree was added in 1861 to honor Moultrie’s heroic defense of the palmetto log fort on Sullivan’s Island against the attack of the British fleet on June 28, 1776; and

Whereas, the flag, commonly known as the Palmetto Flag, with field of indigo blue, a white crescent and a white Palmetto Tree has been proudly displayed by South Carolinians for over one-hundred fifty years; and

Whereas, January 28, 2011, marks the sesquicentennial of the adoption of the Palmetto Flag; and

Whereas, it is appropriate for the members of the Senate, by this resolution, to add their voices in support of these special events honoring South Carolina’s rich history. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, celebrate the sesquicentennial anniversary of the South Carolina State Flag, to declare January 28, 2011, as the first annual “South Carolina Flag Day”, to request the National Park Service to conduct appropriate interpretive and educational events at the Fort Moultrie National Monument, a unit of the Fort Sumter National Monument, and to encourage public and private historical and educational institutions to annually commemorate and recognize South Carolina Flag Day.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the National Park Service at the Fort Moultrie National Monument.

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