**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE PRESIDENT‑ELECT BARACK OBAMA ON HIS HISTORY‑MAKING VICTORY IN THE 2008 UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND TO WISH HIM WELL AS HE BEGINS HIS TERM OF OFFICE.

Whereas, on November 4, 2008, the United States elected as its forty‑fourth president then‑Illinois Senator Barack Obama, the first African American to be elected to the highest office in the land; and

Whereas, near the beginning of the election cycle on February 16, 2007, Barack Obama traveled to Columbia to announce his candidacy for presidential office, with a campaign focusing on change, bipartisanship, leadership, and unity. His desire was to organize grassroots communities to engage the American people in the political process while eliminating the influence of special interests. In support of his bid for the presidency, he raised more than seven hundred million dollars, mostly from individual citizens; and

Whereas, the early‑on Democratic primary in South Carolina, held January 26, 2008, resulted in a resounding victory for Barack Obama, who captured fifty‑five percent of the vote in this, his first state primary win. Previously, he had generated much excitement when he visited the Palmetto State to participate in the April 2007 Democratic Presidential Debate at South Carolina State University; and

Whereas, Barack Obama will be sworn into office on January 20, 2009, as the forty‑fourth president of the United States. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and congratulate President‑elect Barack Obama on his history‑making victory in the 2008 United States presidential election and wish him well as he begins his term of office.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to President‑elect Obama.

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