**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR COLONEL DOUGLAS M. SENTER, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE DUTCH FORK HIGH SCHOOL AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC, FOR HIS WONDERFUL WORK WITH THIS PROGRAM AND FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL MILITARY CAREER, AND TO EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR HIS MERITORIOUS LEADERSHIP TO CADETS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives recognizes those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the education and nurture of this great State’s young people; and

Whereas, Colonel Douglas M. Senter, is the former director of the Dutch Fork High School Air Force Junior ROTC, and stands among their number as a well‑respected leader, one much admired by students and parents, as well as school and military colleagues; and

Whereas, a graduate of Squadron Officer School, Armed Forces Staff College, and Air War College, Colonel Douglas M. Senter served twenty‑six years in the United States Air Force and is a command pilot with over eight thousand hours’ flying time; and

Whereas, while serving in the United States Air Force, Colonel Senter was a squadron commander, wing chief pilot, and deputy commander of operations, with responsibility for one fourth of the nation’s airlift capability; and

Whereas, he also served as professor and department chair, Aerospace Studies (ROTC), at the University of South Carolina from 1988 to 1991; and

Whereas, with Colonel Senter as the senior aerospace instructor, Air Force Junior ROTC Unit SC‑921 was established at Dutch Fork High School when the school opened in 1992. Over the years, Colonel Senter has taught over two thousand two hundred cadets and has befriended and influenced countless other students at Dutch Fork High School; and

Whereas, in 1993, he instituted a Flight Orientation Program with Eagle Aviation, thus giving Dutch Fork High School cadets the privilege of flying with instructors in light aircraft in the Columbia area. In 1995, his cadets served as honor guard for the arrival of General Colin Powell upon his visit to Columbia. In 1996, Colonel Senter was instrumental in starting and commanding an ROTC Summer Leadership School at McCrady Training Facility, Fort Jackson, the first‑ever joint Army-Navy-Air-Force Junior ROTC camp, which continues operation to this day; and

Whereas, in recognition of his excellence in leadership, Colonel Senter received the 1998‑1999 Instructor of the Year award from Headquarters, Air Force JROTC. In 2000, Colonel Senter served as the Columbia central coordinator for an ROTC fact‑finding contingent from Washington, D.C., headed by Senator Strom Thurmond, an effort that led to the expansion worldwide of Junior ROTC programs by one thousand units; and

Whereas, the Dutch Fork High School Air Force Junior ROTC Unit SC‑921 received the Distinguished Unit Award with Merit in 2007 and the Distinguished Unit Award in 2008; and

Whereas, led by Colonel Senter, the Dutch Fork High School Air Force Junior ROTC has taken many Curriculum‑in‑Action trips, some of which have included journeys to Washington, D.C., Cape Canaveral, Kitty Hawk, Robins Air Force Base, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, and Kings Bay Naval Facility, and the group has participated in numerous community service projects; and

Whereas, among Colonel Senter’s many decorations are the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Combat Readiness Medal, and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm; and

Whereas, Colonel Senter, taking his responsibilities with the seriousness they deserve, labored diligently while director of the Dutch Fork High School Junior ROTC for the educational welfare of the young people committed to his care, and the South Carolina House of Representatives wishes him much happiness and fulfillment in his well‑deserved retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Colonel Douglas M. Senter, former director of the Dutch Fork High School Air Force Junior ROTC, for his wonderful work with this program and for an exceptional military career, and express their gratitude for his meritorious leadership to cadets throughout the years.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Colonel Douglas M. Senter.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑