**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPON THE PASSING OF JOHN CURRY, OF BEAUFORT COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly were deeply saddened to learn of the death of John Curry, of Beaufort County, president of the Curry Company, on September 26, 2008; and

Whereas, during his significant career in tourism, John Curry came to Hilton Head Island in 1973 to serve as executive vice president of the Sea Pines Company, where he shaped the structure and character of Hilton Head Island as a resort destination; and

Whereas, in 1976, he formed his own resort company, Sand Dollar Management, through which he operated resorts in both Carolinas while remaining active in the incorporation and growth of the Town of Hilton Head into a year‑round resort; and

Whereas, Mr. Curry gave continually of his time and energy to the advancement of the tourism industry in his adopted State and in his community through service on numerous boards and commissions, such as the South Carolina Hotel and Motel Association, of which he was chairman; the South Carolina and Hilton Head accommodations tax committees; the Beaufort County Aviation Board; and the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus Advisory Board. For seventeen years, he was also head of the Hilton Head Chamber of Commerce’s Visitor and Convention Bureau, and he was chairman of the Hilton Head Island Olympic Task Force; and

Whereas, he provided critical guidance, management, and leadership as trustee for Hilton Head Holdings Corporation during its bankruptcy in 1986 and 1987, helping the island’s business community weather its greatest economic challenge and preserving the Heritage Classic golf tournament through the establishment of the Heritage Classic Foundation; and

Whereas, John Curry did not go unrecognized for his outstanding service to his State and community. In 1987, he was awarded the Order of the Palmetto by Governor Richard Riley for administering the National Governors Conference, held on Hilton Head Island, and in 1993 he received the Fred Brinkman Award for significant contributions to South Carolina’s tourism industry; and

Whereas, he leaves his wife, Valerie; three children; and two grandchildren; and

Whereas, his loyalty and devotion to his family, his friends, and his State were admired by all who knew him, and he will be remembered with affection and gratitude for many years to come. 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, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of John Curry, of Beaufort County, and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mrs. Valerie Curry for the family.

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