**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR RESERVE DEPUTY JOSEPH P. ARNOT, OF RICHLAND COUNTY, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HIM FOR EIGHT YEARS OF DEDICATED VOLUNTEER SERVICE WITH THE RICHLAND COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina General Assembly recognizes individuals who give tirelessly of themselves as dedicated public servants; and

Whereas, Joseph P. Arnot, retiring reserve deputy of the Richland County Sheriff’s Department, stands among their number as one much admired for his many years of committed service to the citizens of South Carolina; and

Whereas, a native of West Orange, New Jersey, Joe Arnot has made his home in South Carolina since 1971. However, he was no stranger to the Palmetto State when he moved here at that time with his family. In 1951, he found himself in Charleston as a member of the United States Navy, and it was there he met his wife, the former Doris Strickland, whom he wed one year later. The couple, married now for fifty‑six years, together raised a fine family of five children, who have blessed their parents with twelve grandchildren and one great‑grandchild; and

Whereas, for a quarter century, Joe Arnot worked for Yellow Freight Company while also serving as an active community volunteer and, after his retirement from Yellow Freight, he slowed down not at all in his volunteer labors. Among many other worthy endeavors, he served for six years as a representative from House District 80 on the Transportation Committee of Richland County, and in 1999 and 2000 he was president of the Berkeley Forest Homeowners Association. He was a charter member of the State Ports Authority Committee and chaired this committee from 1988 to 1991. He has also helped with the South Carolina Special Olympics and is an active member of St. Peter’s Catholic Church; and

Whereas, in 1999, he graduated from the Richland County Sheriff’s Department’s eleven‑week Citizens Academy, and in 2002, at the age of seventy‑four, Joe Arnot became the oldest person ever to graduate from the Richland County Police Academy. In 2003, he was recognized as Reserve Deputy of the Year, and in 2005 he set the record for volunteer hours worked, with two thousand seven hundred hours of volunteer service to the Richland County Sheriff’s Department. He has since surpassed his own record and now has racked up an amazing thirteen thousand volunteer hours with the department; and

Whereas, beginning in 2000, he became a “ride‑along” with the department’s Region One, working twelve‑hour night shifts at the age of seventy‑two. Shortly thereafter, Captain Steve White asked him to volunteer in the office, as well, and Joe Arnot began working three ten‑hour shifts answering office phones and taking reports, while continuing his ride‑alongs; and

Whereas, in recognition of his unwavering devotion to the Richland County Sheriff’s Department and other organizations in the midst of health challenges and a full commitment to his family, the Richland Sertoma Club honored Joe Arnot with its 2006‑2007 Service to Mankind Award; and

Whereas, the General Assembly recognizes that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of people like Joe Arnot, who use their talents and resources to serve others. 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 honor Reserve Deputy Joseph P. Arnot, of Richland County, upon the occasion of his retirement, commend him for eight years of dedicated volunteer service with the Richland County Sheriff’s Department, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Reserve Deputy Joseph P. Arnot.

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