**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE COMMODORE AND MRS. WILMOT SCHOTT FOR THEIR VITAL ROLES IN COORDINATING THE FIFTY‑FOURTH ANNUAL BEAUFORT WATER FESTIVAL AND TO CONGRATULATE HISTORIC BEAUFORT ON ITS TRADITION OF PRODUCING ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR VOLUNTEER FESTIVALS ON THE SOUTHEASTERN COAST.

Whereas, Beaufort is South Carolina’s second‑oldest city, located on our beautiful coast between Charleston and Savannah, Georgia; and

Whereas, through the past fifty‑four years, the Beaufort Water Festival has become an important part of the city’s unique culture and heritage. The family‑oriented, totally volunteer‑run event showcases the city’s character and close connection with the water; and

Whereas, the festival’s origins date back to the 1930s, when sailboat racing on the Beaufort River became popular. Members of the community later decided to create an event as a tribute to Beaufort’s renowned Southern hospitality and culturally diverse island lifestyle; and

Whereas, the first official Beaufort Water Festival was established in 1955; and

Whereas, this year’s edition of the festival, July 10‑19, 2009, includes golf and fishing tournaments; live entertainment in the Waterfront Park, featuring music from the varied genres of Motown, country, shag, tropical, á la Jimmy Buffett, soul, blues, and rock; and family entertainment, including Children’s Day, Teen Dance, Talent Night, and the ever‑popular Parris Island Marine Band and the Grand Parade of Boats; and

Whereas, the community’s continuous dedication to providing visitors and residents quality entertainment has made the event one of the most popular volunteer festivals on the Southeastern coast. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize Commodore and Mrs. Wilmot Schott for their vital roles in coordinating the fifty‑fourth annual Beaufort Water Festival and congratulate historic Beaufort on its tradition of producing one of the most popular volunteer festivals on the Southeastern coast.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Wilmot Schott, Commodore of the 2009 Festival.

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