**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR MICHAEL M. FLACK OF LEXINGTON COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN AIRPORT, TO COMMEND HIM ON ELEVEN YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE IN THAT CAPACITY AND TO HIS COMMUNITY, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with deep pleasure that the South Carolina General Assembly honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to serve the citizens of the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, Mike Flack, retiring executive director of the Columbia Metropolitan Airport, stands among their number as an outstanding public servant, one much admired for his commitment to improving air transportation and economic development in the Midlands; and

Whereas, a graduate of the University of Kentucky with an undergraduate degree in political science and a Master’s Degree in Public Administration, after graduation Mr. Flack spent seven years serving his nation in the United States Army before becoming Director of Finance and Administration at the Blue Grass Airport in Lexington, Kentucky. He spent fourteen years at that airport, ultimately becoming its executive director; and

Whereas, Mr. Flack left the Blue Grass Airport in 1998 to become Executive Director of the Columbia Metropolitan Airport, a facility that grew from a Lexington County airstrip to a modern, regional air transportation facility; and

Whereas, during his tenure as Columbia Metropolitan Airport’s director, Mr. Flack oversaw the construction of the John Hardee Expressway to the airport; the expansion and renovation of the airport’s facilities, including construction of a new parking garage and improvements to cargo areas, hangers, and the United States Customs building; and successful marketing efforts to recruit airline service to the airport. Under Mr. Flack’s leadership, Columbia Metropolitan Airport has grown from being served by three airlines to being served by six airlines, from offering nonstop service to only four cities to offering nonstop service to fifteen different hubs; and from offering twenty‑five daily flights to forty‑seven daily flights; and

Whereas, Mr. Flack’s activities are not limited to his demands as airport director, but include numerous community and economic development activities including service on the boards of directors of the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce, the Lexington County Development Corporation, the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority, and the Columbia World Affairs Council. With respect to economic development, Mr. Flack is actively involved with the airport’s Foreign Trade Zone and the Columbia Airport Enterprise industrial park; and

Whereas, a retired colonel in the United States Army Reserves, Mr. Flack makes his home in Lexington County with his wife, Judy, who is the Victim Advocate of the Lexington Police Department; and

Whereas, having made his mark on the midlands through his leadership and contribution to the growth of air transportation, economic development, and community service, Michael M. Flack will be remembered with affection and gratitude by the communities he served. 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, congratulate and honor Michael M. Flack of Lexington County on the occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of the Columbia Metropolitan Airport, commend his eleven years of faithful service in that capacity and to his community, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Michael M. Flack.

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