**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO WISH GODSPEED TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE 178TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION, SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, AS THEY BEGIN THEIR TOUR OF DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO EXPRESS THE DEEPEST RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THESE SOLDIERS FOR THEIR COURAGE AND MANY SACRIFICES IN SERVICE TO OUR NATION AND THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN.

Whereas, the fine men and women of the 178th Field Artillery Battalion of the South Carolina Army National Guard, among their number South Carolina Representative Ted Pitts, departed on January 6, 2010, from West Columbia for a tour of duty in Afghanistan; and

Whereas, these soldiers, as well as their families and friends, have made great sacrifices in their service to this country and will continue to do so as part of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan; and

Whereas, as they provide security for Provincial Reconstruction teams in Afghanistan, these courageous South Carolina Army National Guard troops also will continue to show the valor and great spirit of determination and pride for their country that help make America great; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, on behalf of all South Carolinians, acknowledge with deep appreciation the great sacrifices the men and women of the 178th Field Artillery Battalion make for the ideals of freedom and justice, which are so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

Whereas, with one voice, the members offer their grateful thanks to Almighty God for these sons and daughters of South Carolina and pray God’s hand of protection and blessing on them as they commence their service in Afghanistan. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, with Godspeed to the men and women of the 178th Field Artillery Battalion, South Carolina Army National Guard, as they begin their tour of duty in Afghanistan, and express the deepest respect and admiration of the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives to these soldiers for their courage and many sacrifices in service to our nation and the people of Afghanistan.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the 178th Field Artillery Battalion, South Carolina Army National Guard.

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