**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE HALEY BARBOUR, GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI, FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, AND TO EXTEND TO HIM A CORDIAL WELCOME TO THE PALMETTO STATE ON MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010.

Whereas, long a leader in American politics, the Honorable Haley Barbour, Governor of Mississippi, has served the people of the United States with distinction on the local, state, and national level for many years; and

Whereas, as President Ronald Reagan’s top political advisor, Haley Barbour served as assistant to the President for political affairs. He also served as chairman of the Republican National Committee; and

Whereas, Haley Barbour is only the second governor since Reconstruction to be elected to a second consecutive term as chief executive of Mississippi, his native state; and

Whereas, now in his seventh year as governor, Haley Barbour has put Mississippi on a new path in job creation, education, health care, energy, safer communities, and stronger families; and

Whereas, in the face of the worst natural disaster in American history, Hurricane Katrina, which struck on August 29, 2005, Governor Barbour took the lead early on in helping Mississippians rebuild and recover. He and First Lady Marsha Barbour, his wife of thirty‑eight years, have worked tirelessly and innovatively with local, state, and national leadership to tap into many resources of assistance for victims of Hurricane Katrina; and

Whereas, for his leadership after Katrina, Governor Barbour received the Thomas Jefferson Freedom Award, which is presented to a nationally recognized leader by the bipartisan American Legislative Exchange Council; and

Whereas, he was also named Governor of the Year for 2006 by *Governing* magazine, was presented the Gulf Guardian Award by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for his work to rebuild and protect sensitive coastal ecosystems, and was awarded the 2008 Adam Smith Medal from BIPAC for his pursuit of the principles of free enterprise as Mississippi’s sixty‑third governor. In June 2009, Governor Barbour assumed the role of chairman of the Republican Governors Association; and

Whereas, on March 15, 2010, Governor Haley Barbour will visit the Palmetto State for a reception and dinner to be given in his honor in Spartanburg; and

Whereas, grateful for his many contributions to the welfare of the people of this great country, the House of Representatives takes pleasure in welcoming Governor Barbour to South Carolina, and the members wish him much success and fulfillment in all his future endeavors. 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 commend the Honorable Haley Barbour, Governor of Mississippi, for his many years of public service to the people of the United States, and extend to him a cordial welcome to the Palmetto State on Monday, March 15, 2010.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Governor Haley Barbour.

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