**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT ANTHONY P. PETRUCCI OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS FOR HIS THIRTY YEARS OF HONORABLE MILITARY SERVICE TO THIS GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, on behalf of all South Carolinians, acknowledge with deep appreciation the great sacrifice that the men and women of the United States Armed Forces make for the ideals of freedom and justice, which are so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

Whereas, Master Gunnery Sergeant Anthony P. Petrucci of the United States Marine Corps stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by their country; and

Whereas, born in Topeka, Kansas, Anthony P. Petrucci enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in 1979. After his recruit training at Parris Island, Private Petrucci attended Aviation Fundamentals, Basic Electronics and Electricity, Aviation Avionics at Naval Air Station Millington, Tennessee. After graduation, he was selected to attend the Advanced First Term Avionics School. During this tour, he was meritoriously promoted to lance corporal and corporal; and

Whereas, in May 1981, Corporal Petrucci was stationed at MCAS New River, North Carolina, where he served as a communication navigation technician. In July, his initial active‑duty training complete, Corporal Petrucci was transferred to his reserve command at NAS South Weymouth, Massachusetts. In December 1981, he enlisted full‑time and was transferred back to MCAS New River, North Carolina, and assigned to H&MS‑29 as an I‑level COMNAV technician. He was meritoriously promoted to sergeant in August 1982; and

Whereas, serving at sites as varied as Beaufort; Okinawa, Japan; Cherry Point, North Carolina; Norfolk, Virginia; Aviano, Italy; Hungary; Thailand; and the Philippines, Sergeant Petrucci continued to work his way through the ranks to his present rank of master gunnery sergeant, which he was awarded in 2003. He also earned his way from avionics instructor to avionics chief; and

Whereas, during June 2008, Master Gunnery Sergeant Petrucci transferred to MALS‑31, MCAS Beaufort, South Carolina, where he served as the avionics chief; and

Whereas, in March 2009, he forward deployed to Bastion, Afghanistan to his current billet as the sergeant major for MALS‑40; and

Whereas, during the course of his career, Master Gunnery Sergeant Petrucci has received numerous awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals with three gold stars, and the Army Achievement Medal. He holds a dual master’s degree in management and human‑resource management from Webster University and an undergraduate degree in aviation management from Park University; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives counts it a great privilege to honor Master Gunnery Sergeant Anthony P. Petrucci as he retires from the United States Marine Corps, and the members offer him their grateful thanks for his sacrificial service to the people of South Carolina and this nation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend Master Gunnery Sergeant Anthony P. Petrucci of the United States Marine Corps for his thirty years of honorable military service to this grateful State and nation, and wish him much success and fulfillment on the occasion of his retirement.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Master Gunnery Sergeant Anthony P. Petrucci.

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