**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. MCLEOD OF DILLON COUNTY, ONE OF SOUTH CAROLINA’S MOST DISTINGUISHED JUDGES, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly were deeply saddened to learn of the death of the Honorable William James McLeod of Dillon County, a distinguished lawyer, legislator, and judge, on May 8, 2010; and

Whereas, Bill McLeod, a son of Dr. William Rogers McLeod and Ellen Byrd McLeod, was born on March 24, 1919, in Timmonsville and graduated from Timmonsville High School in 1936. He attended Furman University from 1936 to 1939, where he was a member of the student council for three years, a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity, and a member and chairman of the Panhellenic Council. In 1942, Bill McLeod graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law, where he was a member of the Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity and the Omicron Delta Kappa leadership fraternity. Also, in 1942, he was admitted to the South Carolina Bar; and

Whereas, during World War II, Bill McLeod entered the United States Marine Corps in April 1942, served in the Pacific Theatre of Operations, was awarded two battle stars, and was discharged as a captain in January 1946. Captain McLeod continued his military career through service in the South Carolina National Guard and was recalled to active duty with the 228th AAA Group from 1950 to 1952. He served as president of the South Carolina National Guard Association in 1962‑1963, eventually rising to the rank of Brigadier General, South Carolina National Guard (Retired); and

Whereas, after his service in World War II, Bill McLeod moved to Dillon County where he entered the general practice of law and became one of the community’s most accomplished and distinguished citizens, serving as president of the Dillon Lions Club, chairman of the Dillon County Board of Education, trustee and treasurer of the Dunbar Memorial Library, advisory board member of Saint Eugene Community Hospital, district chairman of the Boy Scouts of America, and president of the Clan McLeod Society of the Carolinas; and

Whereas, turning his eye to public service, Bill McLeod was elected to the House of Representatives from Dillon County in 1966 and served with distinction for twelve years until 1978, having served as vice chair of the Ways and Means Committee, and as a member of both the State Reorganization Commission and the State House Committee; and

Whereas, in addition his legal practice, community service, and legislative service, Bill McLeod’s career included highly distinguished service on the bench, beginning with his tenure on the Municipal Court of the City of Dillon from 1953 to1961, and continuing after the conclusion of his legislative career with his election as judge of the Family Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit. Judge McLeod served on the family court bench from 1978 to 1989, during which time he served a term as president of the South Carolina Family Court Judges Association, as a special circuit judge of the Circuit Court of South Carolina on an extensive number of occasions, and as an acting associate justice on the Supreme Court of South Carolina; and

Whereas, in recognition of his distinguished record of service and contributions, the General Assembly honored Bill McLeod by naming the interchange at the intersection of Interstate Highway 95 and South Carolina Highway 9 in Dillon County the “Judge Bill McLeod Interchange” in 2006; and

Whereas, a faithful servant of the Lord, Bill McLeod was an active member of Main Street United Methodist Church, where he served in many capacities, most notably as a Sunday School teacher for more than fifty years; and

Whereas, he leaves his beloved wife of sixty‑two years, the former Sara Alice Carmichael of Hamer, son William James McLeod and his wife Gayle, daughter Martha McLeod, and grandchildren James Tyler Lee, Jr., Esquire, and his wife Cari Kepner Lee, William McLeod Lee, William James McLeod III, Emily Kathryn McLeod, and Sara Ellen McLeod; and

Whereas, his loyalty and devotion to his family, his friends, and his State were admired by all who knew him, and he will be remembered with affection and gratitude for many years to come. 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, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of the Honorable William J. McLeod, of Dillon County, and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mrs. William J. McLeod for the family.

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