**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE HONORABLE HARRY F. CATO OF GREENVILLE COUNTY FOR HIS TWENTY YEARS OF COMMITTED SERVICE AS A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO WISH HIM ALL THE BEST IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Whereas, the Honorable Harry F. Cato of Greenville County for twenty years has loyally represented the citizens of House District 17 in the House of Representatives of this great State; and

Whereas, a 1980 graduate of Clemson University, Harry Cato is manager of Cato Transportation Supply, Incorporated; and

Whereas, not one to neglect his civic duty, Representative Cato, a resident of Travelers Rest, has served his community and State in numerous capacities, among them as a Travelers Rest City Council member (1986‑1990), mayor pro tempore (1988‑1990), and Bank of Travelers Rest board member; and

Whereas, married to the former Kris Thompson, he is the proud father of four children, James Franklin Cato, Christopher Michael Cato, Erin Elizabeth Thompson, and Robin Michelle Thompson; and

Whereas, Harry Cato, a man of faith, finds spiritual strength through worship at Travelers Rest United Methodist Church and further serves his God as a volunteer at his local YMCA. For his dedicated service there, he was named YMCA of Greenville Outstanding Volunteer in 2006; and

Whereas, during his legislative service, he has lent his expertise to the Rules Committee (1993‑1994) and Labor, Commerce & Industry Committee (chairman, 1994‑2008). On December 2, 2008, he was elected Speaker Pro Tempore of the House; and

Whereas, during Representative Cato’s tenure in the House, he was successful in championing and passing historic tort reform legislation and will always be remembered for leading the State into a more pro‑business atmosphere; and

Whereas, his leadership in the House will be greatly missed, but it is his wonderful sense of humor that perhaps will be the bigger loss to the body; and

Whereas, on the occasion of his departure from the House of Representatives, his House colleagues, grateful for Harry Cato’s efforts, particularly to improve the business environment in our State, extend their best wishes for much success and fulfillment in the new challenges he looks forward to in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, commend the Honorable Harry F. Cato of Greenville County for his twenty years of committed service as a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, and wish him all the best in the years to come.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to our distinguished colleague, the Honorable Harry F. Cato.

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