**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE RICHARD E. CHALK, JR., OF BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives learned with sincere regret that Richard E. Chalk, Jr., will depart from the House of Representatives at the conclusion of his current term; and

Whereas, born in Columbia to Richard E. Chalk, Sr., and Louise Crapps Chalk, he earned a bachelor of arts in political science from The Citadel in 1974 and a master of church music from New Orleans Baptist Seminary in 1979; and

Whereas, he married his beloved wife, Maelda Cristina Miranda, in 1979, and together they raised four fine children: Christina, Richard III (Tripp), Mollie, and Clara; and

Whereas, outside of public service, Richard engages in the commercial real estate business in Beaufort County and serves as director of music at Sea Island Chapel. Among other things, he previously served as associate director of The Room at the Inn, a not‑for‑profit organization that served homeless single women during and after pregnancy; and

Whereas, Richard is a lifetime member of The Citadel Alumni Association, an Eagle Scout, a recipient of the Vigil Honor, a recipient of the Order of the Arrow, and was named one of the Outstanding Young Men of America in 1975 and 1982; and

Whereas, Richard Chalk holds the very unique distinction of having served also in the general assembly of another state, having served approximately five years in the North Carolina House of Representatives from 1985 to 1989 and in the North Carolina Senate from 1989 to 1990. His experience in those bodies undoubtedly provided a solid background for his service in the House; and

Whereas, Representative Chalk has faithfully served the citizens of District 123 in the House of Representatives since 2005, during which time he has been a member of the Ad Hoc Property Tax Committee, and the Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee, where he serves as second vice chair and as a member of the Subcommittee on Medical Occupational Regulation and Licensing Boards. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, he diligently and passionately advocated issues related to public education, job creation through infrastructure improvements and workforce development, and tax reform to assist small businesses and individuals in the Palmetto State. Throughout all of his work in the General Assembly, Representative Chalk was guided by a concern for advocating the integrity of the United States Constitution, particularly by resisting intrusion by the federal government into state and individual matters; and

Whereas, above all else, Richard Chalk sought through public service to adhere a lesson he learned early in life, which was to leave a place better off than how he found it; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives will miss the diligent and conscientious service that Richard Chalk, their friend and colleague, has given to the House of Representatives, and hope that he will enjoy deep fulfillment in the years to come.  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 the Honorable Richard E. Chalk, Jr., of Beaufort County for his dedicated service in the House of Representatives on behalf of the citizens of South Carolina, and wish him much success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable Richard E. Chalk, Jr.

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