**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY STAFF SERGEANT RONALD PHILLIPS, JR., OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN IRAQ, AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE DEEPEST APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, 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, Staff Sergeant Ronald Phillips, Jr., of the United States Army stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by their country; and

Whereas, as a committed serviceman, Staff Sergeant Ronald Phillips, Jr., was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, United States Army, stationed at Fort Stewart, Georgia. Answering the call of his country, he left his family and home in Conway to serve in Iraq as a part of the war on terror; and

Whereas, on September 25, 2008, at the age of thirty‑three, Staff Sergeant Phillips lost his life for the cause of freedom, killed in action in Bahbahani, Iraq, from wounds suffered when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device; and

Whereas, there is no greater or more courageous sacrifice a man can make than to lay down his life for a noble cause, as Staff Sergeant Ronald Phillips, Jr., has done, and to honor his valor, Staff Sergeant Phillips has been named a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor’s Palmetto Patriot Award; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly counts it a great privilege to remember Staff Sergeant Ronald Phillips, Jr., one of the Palmetto State’s finest, and the members with one voice offer their grateful thanks to Almighty God for the service and ultimate sacrifice of this heroic son of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Staff Sergeant Ronald Phillips, Jr., of the United States Army while he was serving a tour of military duty in Iraq, and express to his family the deepest appreciation of a grateful State and nation for his life, sacrifice, and service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Staff Sergeant Ronald Phillips, Jr.

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