**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE PASSING OF JAMES “JIM” MONROE PARNELL OF JASPER COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were deeply saddened to learn of the death of James “Jim” Monroe Parnell of Jasper County, on March 2, 2009; and

Whereas, born December 22, 1934, in Columbia, Jim Parnell was the son of Monroe J. Parnell and Eleanor Flowers Parnell. At the age of thirteen, the young Jim took his first flight, an event that sparked an interest in all facets of aviation and led to a fifty‑three‑year career in this field; and

Whereas, he was a retired flight and air carrier maintenance inspector for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and a pilot for more than fifty years. After retiring, he served as a designated air worthiness representative, designated maintenance examiner, and flight instructor to aspiring pilots from all over the country. Mr. Parnell also served as a United Nations representative to Saudi Arabia, where he set up flight regulations; and

Whereas, a recipient of many honors, Jim Parnell recently received the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, presented by the FAA to recognize pilots with fifty or more consecutive years of safe flight operations; and

Whereas, as part of his committed involvement with the Ridgeland community, his home, Jim Parnell was a member of the Masons, Scottish Rite, the Shriners, and Ridgeland Baptist Church. In addition, this military veteran served his country from 1953 to 1956 in the United States Air Force; and

Whereas, predeceased by son Kenneth Parnell, he leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Bess Kelley Parnell; son Michael J. Parnell; stepsons Harold R. Mock and Samuel K. Mock; daughter Cynthia Parnell; stepdaughter Amy M. Duke; eight grandchildren; four great‑grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends. He will be missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of James “Jim” Monroe Parnell of Jasper 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. Bess Parnell for the family.

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