**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR RONALD C. OSBORNE OF COLUMBIA, DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO THANK HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH FULFILLMENT AND SUCCESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, for seventeen years, South Carolina’s emergency management program has enjoyed the benefit of the dedication, experience, and leadership of Mr. Ronald C. Osborne, director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, Office of the Adjutant General; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, Ronald Osborne earned a bachelor’s degree from the College of Charleston and a master’s degree from Texas A&M University; and

Whereas, prior to being named director, Mr. Osborne served the division in various positions, the last being chief of the Response and Recovery Section. In 2001, he was appointed to his present position, and, under his leadership, the division has provided oversight for emergencies and disaster by coordinating management, planning, response, and recovery for the State of South Carolina. Responsible for program coordination efforts with emergency management personnel at the local and national levels of government, he has also served as chairman for the State Emergency Response Commission and the State’s Citizen Corps Council; and

Whereas, during his eight‑year tenure as division director, he has distinguished himself through a number of outstanding achievements. Under Mr. Osborne’s direction, South Carolina, one of only ten states to be so recognized, received a satisfactory grade from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He was the driving force behind South Carolina’s becoming nationally accredited under the Emergency Management Accreditation Program, and he enjoyed the additional distinction of seeing South Carolina recognized as one of only twenty states to achieve this goal at the time of accreditation; and

Whereas, he also led the Palmetto State in becoming the fourth state certified by the National Weather Service as “Storm Ready.” Among other accomplishments, he managed more than two hundred million dollars in federal grants; and

Whereas, in addition to his work for the State of South Carolina, Ronald Osborne served his country in the United States Air Force for twenty years, retiring from active duty as a lieutenant colonel. During his military career, he was presented the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Vietnam Service Medal, and many other awards; and

Whereas, having long been supported in his labors by his wife, Ellen, and their three daughters, Nicole, Lindsey, and Elyse, he plans to retire July 1, 2009. Grateful for Mr. Osborne’s many years of faithfulness in serving the people of South Carolina, the Senate hopes he will find much enjoyment in the more restful days ahead, be it in golfing, woodworking, traveling, or spending more time with the family. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Ronald C. Osborne of Columbia, director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, Office of the Adjutant General, upon the occasion of his retirement, thank him for his many years of outstanding public service, and wish him much fulfillment and success in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Ronald C. Osborne.

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