**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ANTHONY VENETZ, JR., OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, 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, Sergeant First Class Anthony Venetz, Jr., of the United States Army stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by their country; and

Whereas, as a committed serviceman, Sergeant First Class Anthony Venetz, Jr., was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Answering the call of his country, he left his family and home to serve abroad as a part of the war on terror; and

Whereas, on January 28, 2011, at the age of thirty, Sergeant First Class Venetz lost his life for the cause of freedom, dying as a result of injuries sustained in a noncombat‑related incident in Parwan Province, Afghanistan; and

Whereas, the General Assembly offers its deepest sympathy to Sergeant First Class Venetz’s family in their loss: his wife, Deborah Ann Venetz; his son, Jace; his daughter, Alexa; his mother, Marian Venetz; and his father, Anthony Venetz, Sr.; 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 Sergeant First Class Anthony Venetz, Jr., has done, and to honor his valor, Sergeant First Class Venetz has been named a recipient of the Palmetto Patriot Award, given by former Lieutenant Governor André Bauer; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly counts it a great privilege to remember Sergeant First Class Venetz, and the members with one voice offer their grateful thanks to Almighty God for the service and ultimate sacrifice of this heroic son of liberty. 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 Sergeant First Class Anthony Venetz, Jr., of the United States Army while he was serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan, 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 Sergeant First Class Anthony Venetz, Jr.

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