**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THOMAS ASHRIELL “TERRY” SLATER, DIRECTOR OF CHORAL ACTIVITIES AT LEE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS A MUSIC TEACHER AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON BEING INDUCTED INTO THE LEE COUNTY OPERA HOUSE WALL OF FAME BY THE LEE COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Lee Central High School Director of Choral Activities Thomas Ashriell “Terry” Slater, having served as a music educator *par excellence* for twenty‑six years, recently has been selected for induction into the Lee County Opera House Wall of Fame by the Lee County Arts Council; and

Whereas, the Lee County Opera House Wall of Fame honors local artists who have rendered outstanding service to the community in a successful arts career, as has Terry Slater; and

Whereas, born in Sumter as the fourth child of Toney and Thelma Slater, Terry Slater received his early education in the public schools of Lee County and graduated as valedictorian from Mt. Pleasant High School. He then attended the University of South Carolina (USC) and South Carolina State University, from which he graduated *magna cum laude* with a bachelor’s degree in 1985. In addition, Mr. Slater has done graduate work at USC, Lander University, The Citadel, and the University of North Carolina‑Charlotte; and

Whereas, he entered the world of teaching in August 1986 with the Lee County School District and has been planted firmly there for the past twenty‑six years. Having served as a general music teacher, choral director, and band director, Terry Slater has enjoyed training choral groups that have consistently earned the highest ratings at contests around the nation for many years. One of his finest moments came in 1991 when his choir was selected to participate in a concert at New York City’s Carnegie Hall; and

Whereas, believing his greatest contribution to education is instilling pride, discipline, and confidence in his students, Mr. Slater holds that a teacher must have high expectations and willingness to sacrifice time and energy to help children succeed. For his own success as a teacher, he gives credit where credit is due: All the qualities he has as a teacher, he says, he learned from his educator parents; and

Whereas, away from the classroom, Terry Slater particularly relishes traveling to new places and spending time with his younger relatives; and

Whereas, grateful for his consistent excellence as an educator, the Senate takes great pleasure in saluting Terry Slater on receiving this well‑deserved honor, and the members commend him for his nearly three decades of instilling a love of music and the knowledge and skill to enjoy it in the students of Lee County. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize Thomas Ashriell “Terry” Slater, director of choral activities at Lee Central High School, for his many years of exemplary service as a music teacher and congratulate him on being inducted into the Lee County Opera House Wall of Fame by the Lee County Arts Council.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Terry Slater.

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