**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE HONORABLE W. GREG RYBERG, OF AIKEN COUNTY, FOR HIS NINETEEN YEARS OF DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT IN SERVING AS A MEMBER OF THE SENATE, AND TO WISH HIM SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the Honorable W. Greg Ryberg, of Aiken County, has represented the citizens of Senate District 24 for nineteen years with industry and excellence; and

Whereas, Senator Ryberg earned his B.S. degree in Mathematics from Marquette University in 1968 and honorably served his country in the United States Army Reserves National Guard from 1968 to 1974; and

Whereas, Greg Ryberg’s competitive spirit was formed at an early age when he became the 1957 Eau Claire, Wisconsin marble champion; and

Whereas, since 1999, he has been Chief Executive Officer and President of REI, Inc., and from 1977 to 1999, he was President of R&H Maxxon, Inc.; and

Whereas, Senator Ryberg served a vital role in the extensive renovations to the State House in the mid‑1990’s through his service on the State House Committee; and

Whereas, the handlebar mustache Senator Ryberg donned when he first came to the Senate will always be his trademark; and

Whereas, Senator Ryberg additionally serves on numerous boards and commissions and was the 1998 Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year for the Carolinas in the retail/wholesale distribution category; and

Whereas, during his tenure with the Senate, his many committee assignments have included the Corrections and Penology, Education, Finance, and Transportation Committees, and he has ably served as Chairman of the Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee since 2007; and

Whereas, over the years he has received numerous awards including the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce “Businessperson of the Year” in 1994, BIPEC Guardian of Small Business Award in 1998, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year for the Carolinas in 1998, a South Carolina Taxpayers Association Friend of the Taxpayer Award in 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2009, and a South Carolina Chamber of Commerce Public Servant of the Year Award in 2010; and

Whereas, Senator Ryberg proved to be a worthy debater when it came to issues concerning the South Carolina High School League, the State Retirement System, the State Treasurer, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Employment and Workforce; and

Whereas, the members and staff of the South Carolina Senate looked forward to the days when his beloved wife, Betty, would join Senator Ryberg in the Senate Chamber since she always brings a smile to his face and a kind and gentle spirit to his demeanor; and

Whereas, he and his wife Betty of nearly forty-four years have raised three children, Amy, Kyle and Shana, and they are the proud grandparents of Chelsea Rose, Jack, William, Patrick James, Matthew, Maren, and Sonia; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate will miss the keen insight and faithful service that Greg Ryberg has provided to the Senate and hope that he experiences fulfillment in all his future undertakings. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, commend the Honorable Greg Ryberg, of Aiken County, for his nineteen years of dedication and commitment in serving as a member of the Senate and wish him success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable Greg Ryberg.

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