**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS SINCERE SORROW UPON THE PASSING OF WILLIAM DUKE KIGHT OF BARNWELL COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO HIS LARGE AND LOVING FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives learned with deep sadness of the death of William Duke Kight on April 17, 2011, at the age of seventy‑two; and

Whereas, born in Cedartown, Georgia, on June 26, 1938, Duke Kight was the oldest son of William A. and Aline Denman Kight; and

Whereas, he graduated from Williston‑Elko High School and attended the University of South Carolina where he played football, and he later earned a master’s in education from Western Carolina University in North Carolina; and

Whereas, in 1962, he took his first coaching position for the Mid Carolina High School Rebels, and in 1965, he moved to coach the Crescent High School Tigers in Iva; and

Whereas, he relocated his family to Graniteville in 1968 where he coached until he became principal of Byrd Elementary School, and he served Aiken County as an administrator for Leavelle McCampbell Middle School and for Langley‑Bath‑Clearwater High School in Warrenville; and

Whereas, in 1983, he and his family moved to Williston where he served as the superintendent of schools until his retirement in 1991; and

Whereas, Duke Kight continued to serve the educational needs of the children of South Carolina even after his retirement when he entered private education as the headmaster of Jefferson Davis Academy in Blackville until his second retirement in 1999; and

Whereas, even then the education of children in the Palmetto State beckoned to this committed educator, and he devoted the last years of his life to mentoring students in the Aiken County alternative schools; and

Whereas, he was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, a former member of the Williston Lions Club, and a University of South Carolina Letterman; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife of fifty years, Carolyn Sue Scruggs Kight, he raised three fine children, Dr. R. Carson Kight of Aiken, Kenneth D. Kight of Barnwell, and Jessica L. Kight of Williston, who blessed them with five adoring grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the lasting legacy that William Duke Kight has left in our State and for the standard of dedication he brought to education in South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their sincere sorrow upon the passing of William Duke Kight of Barnwell County, and extend their heartfelt sympathy to his large and loving family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the family of William Duke Kight.

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