**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR COLONEL JOHN R. SNIDER, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, AND COMMEND HIM FOR TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE TO OUR NATION.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Colonel John R. Snider will begin a well-deserved retirement after twenty-seven years of service in the United States Marine Corps; and

Whereas, born in 1960 in Spokane, Washington, John Snider earned a bachelor’s degree in business from Washington State University and entered the Marine Corps in 1984; and

Whereas, Colonel Snider has completed flying assignments in the A6 Intruder, TA-4 Skyhawk, and F/A-18 Hornet and has participated in multiple combat operations, including NATO Operation Deny Flight and Deliberate Force in Bosnia Herzegovina in 1995; NATO Operation Allied Force in Serbia and Kosovo in 1999; and Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom; and

Whereas, he commanded Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 312 and deployed with the USS Enterprise, Carrier Strike Group, and his staff assignments include duty as the deputy director/chief of staff Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Organization, Joint Staff, J8; and

Whereas, Colonel Snider holds a master of science in national security strategy from the National War College and another master’s in military studies from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College; and

Whereas, with four thousand four hundred tactical flight hours, he has been awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with bronze numeral 6, and Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars and combat distinguishing device; and

Whereas, in July 2008, Colonel Snider took command of the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort, which is home to some four thousand two hundred Marines and sailors; and military members, their families, and civilian employees on the base number almost thirteen thousand; and

Whereas, the Air Station at Beaufort has earned the nickname, “Fightertown,” because it houses one of the largest aircraft groups, Marine Aircraft Group 31, with a reputation for tactical proficiency; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful that Colonel John R. Snider has served the United States with honor and distinction for more than a quarter of a century and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Colonel John R. Snider, United States Marine Corps, upon the occasion of his retirement, and commend him for twenty-seven years of distinguished and meritorious service to our nation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Colonel John R. Snider.

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