**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE WILLIAM GERALD EMORY OF SPARTANBURG COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS SEVENTY‑FIFTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HIM A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MANY MORE YEARS OF HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that William Gerald Emory of Spartanburg County is celebrating his seventy‑fifth birthday on January 20, 2012; and

Whereas, born in Clifton on January 20, 1937, the young William graduated from Cowpens High School in 1955. In preparation for his life’s work, in 1959 he earned a bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering from Clemson University; and

Whereas, in 1960, he wed his beloved Martha Culbreath Emory, who served as a teacher for thirty years. Blessed with three children, Jerry, Beth, and Michael (all of whom followed their father in graduating from Clemson University), the couple had been married for thirty‑one years when Martha Emory passed away at age fifty‑two in 1991; and

Whereas, Mr. Emory worked with Milliken & Company for twenty years and went on to become an entrepreneur, with four business start‑ups over the next ten years. After thirty‑five years in the promotional‑products business, Mr. Emory is chairman and chief financial officer of the Emory Group, currently one of the largest promotional‑products companies in the Southeast; and

Whereas, active at the state and county levels in the Republican Party, Mr. Emory is chairman of the First Monday Republican Club in Spartanburg. His activity in state political events began with his involvement in the James B. Edwards campaign for Governor and the Carroll A. Campbell, Jr., campaign for the Fourth Congressional District. He is a longtime supporter of law enforcement at the local and state levels; and

Whereas, as a man of faith, Mr. Emory is also a member and usher at First Baptist Church of Spartanburg and serves on the steering committee of First Baptist’s Bottom Line Business Luncheon. In addition, he is a volunteer with Mobile Meals of Spartanburg; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives takes great pleasure in honoring William Gerald Emory on the occasion of his seventy‑fifth birthday, and the members join with his family and friends in wishing him many happy returns of the day as he celebrates this special milestone. Now therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate William Gerald Emory of Spartanburg County on the occasion of his seventy‑fifth birthday and wish him a joyous birthday celebration and many more years of happiness and fulfillment.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to William Gerald Emory.

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