**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THOMAS WINGARD OF RICHLAND COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS SIXTY‑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 General Assembly are delighted to learn that Thomas Wingard of Richland County is celebrating his sixty‑fifth birthday on Sunday, January 29, 2012; and

Whereas, born the son of Joseph Theodore Wingard and Tommie Mae Davis Wingard on January 29, 1947, the young Thomas grew up in a fine family of two boys; and

Whereas, the proud husband of Gloria Wilson Wingard, he is the equally proud father of daughters Bennett Wingard Brown, Tommie “Davis” Wingard, Mary Wingard Cottingham, and Laura Ann Wingard, who have blessed their parents with six grandchildren; and

Whereas, Thomas Wingard grew up working in his father’s locally owned pharmacy in Greenwood. He graduated from the University of South Carolina, where he played football (offensive guard and center) under Coach Paul Dietzel and continued a family legacy of graduates from U.S.C.; and

Whereas, after returning to Greenwood, he became mayor of that city for twelve years. In addition, he carried on his father’s legacy in the pharmacy business, owning and running Wingard’s Pharmacy for years before retiring and moving back to Columbia; and

Whereas, in gratitude for Mr. Wingard’s years of service to the people of South Carolina, Governor Dick Riley awarded him the Order of the Palmetto, the highest honor the Palmetto State can bestow on a civilian; and

Whereas, now a commercial realtor, he attends Carolina Gamecock sports events (mainly football), spends time with his grandchildren and family, and enjoys his Folly Beach vacation home when he can; and

Whereas, in honor of his sixty‑fifth birthday, Thomas Wingard’s family and friends are gathering to surprise him with a celebratory oyster roast on Saturday, January 28, 2012; and

Whereas, the General Assembly takes great pleasure in honoring Thomas Wingard on the occasion of his sixty‑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, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Thomas Wingard of Richland County on the occasion of his sixty‑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 provided to Thomas Wingard.

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