**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND JOHN E. FRAMPTON, DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, AND TO THANK HIM FOR HIS THIRTY‑SEVEN YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives has learned that on March 16, 2012, John E. Frampton, director of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, will begin his retirement after thirty‑seven years of faithful and outstanding service to the citizens of the Palmetto State, with a celebratory event to be held in his honor on February 22, 2012; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, John Frampton earned a bachelor’s degree in marine biology at the College of Charleston in 1970 and a master’s degree in biology/education at The Citadel. He then completed a master’s degree in wildlife biology/statistics at Clemson University, followed by doctoral research in zoology at the same institution. He is a Certified Wildlife Biologist through the Wildlife Society; and

Whereas, Mr. Frampton joined the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) in 1974 as an assistant district biologist. In 1976, he was named regional wildlife biologist, a post he held until 1985. That same year, he was promoted to chief of wildlife. Continuing his rise through the ranks, Mr. Frampton became assistant director for development and national affairs in 1999, serving directly under the agency’s director. In April 2003, John Frampton was selected as agency director by the seven‑member South Carolina Natural Resources Board; and

Whereas, as SCDNR director, he serves as the chief administrator for natural resources in this State and is responsible for management and supervision of the agency’s five line divisions: Outreach & Support Services; Land, Water & Conservation; Law Enforcement; Marine Resources; and Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries. He oversees a staff of more than nine hundred; and

Whereas, the Summerville native is active in regional, national, and international wildlife programs. A past president of both the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, he represents South Carolina on the management board of the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture and serves as agency representative on the Atlantic Flyway Council; and

Whereas, currently, Mr. Frampton represents the department on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the National Fish Habitat Action Plan Committee, serves on the International North American Waterfowl Management Plan Committee, and is a member of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Joint Federal Aid Policy Task Force. In 2010, he was appointed to the National Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee by the Secretary of Commerce and to the prestigious Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture; and

Whereas, Mr. Frampton, along with a representative of Ducks Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy, is credited with initiating the ACE Basin Project and continues to serve on the ACE Basin Task Force. He expanded the focus‑area concept throughout the State and handled the negotiations and purchase of over 180,000 acres of land for the department, including the Jocassee Gorges Project, a 44,500‑acre protection initiative in the Upstate. Since 1974, he has worked to protect 206,890 acres and as director has secured $91.4 million in federal funding for habitat protection; and

Whereas, over the years, John Frampton has received numerous honors, most recently the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trades Business Person of the Year Award, the National Wild Turkey Federation Henry S. Mosby Award, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Captain David Hart Award, and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Seth Gordon Award, all in 2010; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the legacy of leadership John Frampton has bestowed on this great State and appreciates the long and enduring dedication he has exemplified in his service to the people of South Carolina. The members trust he will find pleasure in the more relaxed pace of the days ahead as he begins his retirement. 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 commend John E. Frampton, director of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, on the occasion of his retirement, and thank him for his thirty‑seven years of distinguished service to the people of the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to John E. Frampton.

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