**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND RUSSELL C. ASHMORE, JR., OF GREER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives honor individuals who freely give of their time and resources for the good of others; and

Whereas, retired businessman Russell C. Ashmore, Jr., has contributed valuable public and community service to the citizens of the Palmetto State and is thereby worthy of praise; and

Whereas, born in Greenville on November 3, 1929, Mr. Ashmore, in preparation for a long and fruitful career, graduated from Clemson in 1950 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Army; and

Whereas, he trained at Fort Benning, Georgia, and served two years in Germany on active duty, followed by six years in the National Guard. He completed his military duty as a captain; and

Whereas, for many years chairman of the board for a family‑owned business, he did not let his business become his only place of service; rather, he sought also to serve his family, community, and State, as well as the larger family of humanity beyond the borders of our country; and

Whereas, believing firmly that a man should be active in his community, Mr. Ashmore served as Greer Chamber chairman of the board for more than fifteen years. Currently director emeritus for the Greer Chamber, he received the organization’s 2011 Chairman’s Award and was named its Sud Paget Volunteer of the Year in 2000. He is also presently active on the PAC Board of Trustees (former chairman) and serves as a board and committee member for Partnership for Tomorrow; and

Whereas, as a man of faith, he has served his church as chairman of the diaconate, as chairman of several committees, including the pastoral search and finance committees, and as a Sunday School teacher, the latter for more than twenty‑five years; and

Whereas, for nine years, he served his State as a member of the South Carolina Board of Commissioners for Licensure and Regulations for Roads, in 2002 as chairman; and

Whereas, near to Russell Ashmore’s heart is North Greenville University (NGU). Mr. Ashmore, as chairman of the board at the time, was instrumental in bringing the school through the challenges it faced, placing it on stable ground, and enabling it to flourish. He has served NGU on its board of trustees for twenty‑five years and is a faithful supporter with time, expertise, and finances. NGU conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities on him in 1997; and

Whereas, Russell Ashmore, not content with assisting those in need within his community and State, has long extended a helping hand beyond the boundaries of South Carolina. In 2000 he was a co‑founder of an orphanage in Brazil, the Davis Lar Children’s Home in the City of Fortaleza, which houses and equips seventy‑five at‑risk children and youth for successful living on four campuses; and

Whereas, in addition, since the 1980s he has participated in many mission trips, primarily to Brazil. On one of these trips, he conceived the vision for what became the Taylors Free Medical Clinic, brought to fruition because of his wise leadership in forming and developing this ministry. He continues his advocacy and support for the clinic to this day; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives recognize that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like Russell C. Ashmore, Jr., who use their talents and resources to serve others. 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 Russell C. Ashmore, Jr., of Greer for his outstanding public and community service to the people of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Russell C. Ashmore, Jr.

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