**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE WILSON ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE CSX RAILROAD IN NEWBERRY COUNTY AS THE “HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER EARL BERGEN BRIDGE” IN RECOGNITION OF HIS VISION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN CREATING THE PRESENT ROADWAY SYSTEM FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEWBERRY, AND TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ERECT APPROPRIATE SIGNS OR MARKERS REFLECTING THIS DESIGNATION.

Whereas, Earl Bergen was elected to the House of Representatives from Newberry County in November of 1952, and served the citizens of Newberry County and South Carolina with distinction for four years until 1956; and

Whereas, Earl Bergen was elected to the South Carolina Highway Commission from the Eighth Circuit in 1967, representing Abbeville, Greenwood, Laurens, and Newberry Counties with distinction for four years until 1971; and

Whereas, Highway Commissioner Bergen was the guiding spirit behind the present roadway system serving the City and County of Newberry; and

Whereas, he was the sponsor of the Nance Street Project which created a modern, four‑lane, North/South traffic artery through Historic Downtown Newberry, the completion of which helped to generate a rebirth and renaissance of the City and County of Newberry; and

Whereas, Highway Commissioner Bergen was the sponsor of the South Carolina Highway 34 Bypass, which completed a perimeter roadway system around Historic Downtown Newberry, protecting the downtown historic area from truck traffic, as well as establishing a fresh area for economic development; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the Wilson Road bridge over the CSX Railroad in Newberry County be named the “Highway Commissioner Earl Bergen Bridge” in recognition of the vision and significant roadway accomplishments of Earl Bergen. 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, request that the Department of Transportation name the Wilson Road bridge over the CSX Railroad in Newberry County as the “Highway Commissioner Earl Bergen Bridge” and erect appropriate signs or markers reflecting this designation.

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