**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY LANCE CORPORAL WILLIAM H. CROUSE IV OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE DEEPEST APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, on behalf of all South Carolinians, acknowledge with deep appreciation the great sacrifice that the men and women of the United States Armed Forces make for the ideals of freedom and justice, which are so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

Whereas, Lance Corporal William H. Crouse IV of the United States Marine Corps stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by their country; and

Whereas, as a committed serviceman, Lance Corporal William H. Crouse IV was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Answering the call of his country, he left his home in Woodruff to serve abroad as a part of the war on terror; and

Whereas, well-liked, he had the reputation of a “mischievous, fearless, and competitive young man [with] a deep faith”; and

Whereas, on December 23, 2010, at the age of twenty‑two, Lance Corporal Crouse lost his life for the cause of freedom, dying, along with Cane, his bomb‑sniffing dog, from wounds sustained while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. The tragedy happened only six weeks into his first tour of duty; and

Whereas, there is no greater or more courageous sacrifice a man can make than to lay down his life for a noble cause, as Lance Corporal William H. Crouse IV has done, and to honor his valor, Lance Corporal Crouse has been named a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor’s Palmetto Patriot Award, given by former Lieutenant Governor André Bauer; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly counts it a great privilege to remember Lance Corporal William H. Crouse IV, one of the Palmetto State’s finest, and the members with one voice offer their grateful thanks to Almighty God for the service and ultimate sacrifice of this heroic son of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Lance Corporal William H. Crouse IV of the United States Marine Corps while he was serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan, and express to his family the deepest appreciation of a grateful State and nation for his life, sacrifice, and service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Lance Corporal William H. Crouse IV.

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