**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY STAFF SERGEANT SHELDON L. TATE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE PROFOUND APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

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

Whereas, born in Sumter, Sheldon L. Tate was the son of Valerie and Walter Moore, and he joined the United States Army on October 18, 2001, as a food services specialist; and

Whereas, after his first assignment in Darmstadt, Germany, he deployed to Iraq for the first time in October 2003 for five months, and he was reassigned to Fort Stewart, Georgia, and deployed to Iraq again in January 2005 for a year; and

Whereas, in July 2006, Staff Sergeant Tate was assigned to the 782nd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and deployed with his unit to Afghanistan in March 2007 for thirteen months; and

Whereas, once again he would answer the call of his country to serve his fourth and final combat tour when he deployed with his unit to Afghanistan in August of 2009; and

Whereas, his exemplary military service was recognized with numerous awards, including the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal with three Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, two Army Good Conduct Medals, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, and Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star; and

Whereas, on October 1, 2010, at the age of twenty‑seven, Staff Sergeant Sheldon L. Tate gave his life in Kandahar City, Afghanistan, repelling an attack on an Afghan police compound against insurgents using rifle, rocket‑propelled‑grenade, and small‑arms fire that caused his fatal injury; and

Whereas, he has left behind his beloved wife, Marion, and his loving daughter, Kianté Nevael, and countless other family members and friends; and

Whereas, there is no greater or braver sacrifice for a man to make for his country than to lay down his life; therefore, for his valor, Staff Sergeant Sheldon L. Tate received the Palmetto Patriot Award from former Lieutenant Governor André Bauer; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is honored to remember the life and sacrifice of a brave son and hero of the Palmetto State, Staff Sergeant Sheldon L. Tate. 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 Staff Sergeant Sheldon L. Tate of the United States Army while he was serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan, and express to his family the profound 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 Staff Sergeant Sheldon L. Tate.

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