**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR W. J. CHRISTOPHER, SR., OF GREENWOOD COUNTY, AND TO WISH HIM SUCCESS AS HE RIDES IN THE 2011 TOUR DE CURE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that W. J. Christopher, Sr., will be riding in the annual one hundred‑mile cycling event for the American Diabetes Association in Atlanta, the 2011 Tour de Cure, on May 15, 2011; and

Whereas, this will be the second Atlanta Tour de Cure that the seventy‑three‑year‑old great‑grandfather will have completed to benefit diabetes research and advocacy; and

Whereas, he has trained both times to complete the one hundred‑mile cycle ride in honor of his son Aaron Christopher of Atlanta, who suffers from type‑two diabetes; and

Whereas, in 2010, he completed the one hundred‑mile course in ten hours and seventeen minutes on his single‑speed bike that he lovingly dubs his “Rolls Royce,” and he hopes to better his time in this year’s event and finish before dark; and

Whereas, the 2011 Tour de Cure sponsored by the American Diabetes Association marks the twentieth year for the cycling event, designed for all skill levels, and draws thousands of individual cyclists, teams, and volunteers; and

Whereas, retired in 2003 after twenty‑eight years from work in construction with CSX Railroad, W. J. Christopher began distance cycling in 1981 in conjunction with a then Lander College event that began in Greenwood and ended in Anderson; and

Whereas, besides cycling mostly on weekends, he tends his own vegetable garden, sometimes sells fresh produce at the Greenwood County Farmers Market, and volunteers with the community garden at the Little River Multicultural Center in Hodges; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the pride and recognition that W. J. Christopher, Sr., has brought to his community and wish him a safe and speedy ride at the 2011 Tour de Cure. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor W. J. Christopher, Sr., of Greenwood County, and wish him success as he rides in the 2011 Tour de Cure.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to W. J. Christopher, Sr.

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