**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR P. MICHAEL CINNAMON FOR THIRTY‑SIX YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF RICHLAND COUNTY.

Whereas, the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina are grateful that P. Michael Cinnamon has served Richland County since 1971, first as the director of research, information, and planning and then as director of elections; and

Whereas, born in Knoxville, Tennessee, he studied at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee, and pursued a career in broadcast journalism; and

Whereas, in 1969, he moved to Columbia to serve as the news director and anchorman for WIS‑TV station in charge of weekend news operation; and

Whereas, Michael Cinnamon served as the director of research, information, and planning for Richland County from 1971 to 1974 where, as part of a team of four, he authored and implemented a study that transformed the county’s government, which included setting up the Office of the County Executive and the county’s first Public Works Department among others; and

Whereas, after a controversial and contested election in 1972, he was assigned with administering elections as part of his office and with implementing needed improvements, and in 1974, he was chosen to serve as the director of elections; and

Whereas, his innovative training program for election workers begun in 1976 won a NACo (National Association of Counties) award for Richland County, and it was used by the Federal Election Commission as a model for other jurisdictions across the country; and

Whereas, a member of the original Federal Election Commission Advisory Board on Voting Systems Standards, Mr. Cinnamon served on a congressional committee in the nation’s capital in 1984 that drafted Public Law 98‑435, “The Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984”; and

Whereas, he served as the director at large of the International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers in 1983 and 1984 and president of the South Carolina Association of Registration and Election Officials in 1978, 1979, and 1980; and

Whereas, a past chairman of the voting‑systems‑standards team of the South Carolina Help America Vote Act (HAVA) State Task Force, he continues to serve on the HAVA Statewide Advisory Committee; and

Whereas, generous with his time in the community, he has served with the United Way, on the Richland County Bicentennial Committee, as Trenholm Park Athletic Association president, and as a member of Shandon United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, his talents were early recognized by the Jaycees when he was nominated as Outstanding Man of the Year; he also received the celebrated Moore Award from the South Carolina Association of Registration and Election Officials as the Outstanding Election Official in the State in 1998; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, Barbara, he reared two fine children: Michael, Jr., who serves with the United States Department of State, and Alicia Cinnamon Buffum, and they are blessed with five adoring grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate express their profound gratitude to P. Michael Cinnamon for his long and worthy dedication to the citizens of Richland County and for the standard of excellence he has brought to his office. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor P. Michael Cinnamon for thirty‑six years of service to the citizens of Richland County.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to P. Michael Cinnamon.

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