**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND COLONEL JAMES E. HARDIN, JR. OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVES FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED MILITARY SERVICE AND COMMEND HIS LEADERSHIP AS THE COMMANDER OF THE 12TH LEGAL SUPPORT ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERED AT FORT JACKSON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly are always proud to recognize the outstanding service that our military leaders provide during their distinguished careers; and

Whereas, Colonel James Edward “Jim” Hardin, Jr., who currently serves as the Commander of the 12th Legal Support Organization (LSO) at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina, is a shining example of exemplary military service; and

Whereas, Colonel Hardin was born in Durham, North Carolina on February 2, 1957. He graduated from Duke University in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and from Mercer University in 1983 with a Juris Doctor degree; and

Whereas, Colonel Hardin’s civilian career has been distinguished through his service as Resident Superior Court Judge and Special Superior Court Judge for the State of North Carolina, District Attorney and Assistant District Attorney for Durham County, and Special Narcotics Prosecutor; and

Whereas, his memberships in professional organizations include the North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges, National District Attorneys Association, North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys, Durham County Bar Association, and the North Carolina State Bar Association; and

Whereas, Colonel Hardin has served his country with distinction for over twenty years as a member of the Judge Advocate General Corps in the U.S. Army Reserves; and

Whereas, Colonel Hardin’s Reserve career includes many notable assignments in both an active and a reserve capacity. His active duty assignments have included service as a Trial Defense Counsel and a Legal Assistance Officer with the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, and most recently during Operation Iraqi Freedom as the Command Judge Advocate and the Chief of Administrative Law for FORSCOM in Qatar;

Whereas Colonel Hardin’s numerous reserve leadership assignments have included service as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for USACAPOC at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Brigade Judge Advocate, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, and Acting Staff Judge Advocate for the 108th Division in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for the 12th Legal Support Organization at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and his service has been recognized through numerous army awards and commendations;

Whereas, Colonel Hardin’s outstanding army career has reached its current zenith when he assumed command of the 12th LSO in 2008,

Whereas, it is no coincidence that the 12th LSO, which is located contiguously with the capital of this great State and counts among its members many fine and outstanding residents of this State, is unequivocally considered the best LSO in the army reserve,

Whereas, Colonel Hardin’s stalwart leadership during his tenure as the commander of the 12th LSO has contributed greatly to both the maintenance and enhancement of the unit’s sterling reputation among the army reserve;

Whereas, not only has Colonel Hardin’s efforts as the 12th LSO commander benefited the army reserve and thus our Nation, but his particular efforts to interface and integrate with the Judge Advocates of the South Carolina National Guard have greatly benefited our State as well, and

Whereas, it is appropriate for the members of the General Assembly to pause in their deliberations to recognize the outstanding achievements and accomplishments of a true patriot and to offer their grateful thanks to Colonel James E. Hardin, Jr. for his service to this State and our great country, as well as to provide its sincerest wishes for many years of successful service to come. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, commend Colonel James E. Hardin, Jr. of the United States Army Reserve for his many years of dedicated military service and commend his leadership as the Commander of the 12th Legal Support Organization headquartered at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Colonel Hardin.

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