**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE JOSEPH V. CAPUTO OF SUMTER, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER MORE THAN FORTY‑TWO YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, Joseph V. Caputo will retire from state government on June 30, 2014, with forty‑two years of service to the South Carolina Department of Mental Health; and

Whereas, Joe joined the Department of Mental Health in Sumter as an addictions specialist and was promoted to mental health counselor. He was again promoted and served as the director of the Lee County Mental Health Clinic for several years, until 1995. He also served as the Santee‑Wateree Mental Health Center’s training director during that same period. At the time of his retirement, Mr. Caputo will be serving as the Santee‑Wateree Mental Health Center Director of Training, as the Corporate Compliance Officer, and as the CQI director; and

Whereas, Joe was instrumental in the organization of the Sumter County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and served on the advisory board of Liberty House, which assisted recovering alcoholics in their return to a productive life; and

Whereas, he has served as a member of the Sumter County Council on Alcoholism and the American Association for Counseling and Development. He was also a member and past president of the Sumter County Drug Council and chairman of the Lee County Health Department Advisory Board; and

Whereas, in 1978, Joe served as the president of the South Carolina State Employees Association Sumter Chapter. He was selected as the Chapter’s Outstanding State Employee in both 1981 and 1994. In 1985, Joe was named the SCSEA’s Outstanding Male State Employee. He was selected as the SCSEA’s president from 1988‑1990. He has served as the Association’s statewide legislative chairman since 1982 and also served on the association’s executive committee; and

Whereas, Joe is a member of the Knights of Columbus and is a former director of the Sumter Jaycees. He coached the women’s softball team at St. Anne’s Roman Catholic Church, is a past leader of the church’s Eternal Life Prayer Group, and was the vice president of the St. Anne’s/St. Jude’s bowling league; and

Whereas, he is married to Janet Caputo and the two have six children and seven grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate are grateful for the many years of service and devotion that Joe Caputo has given to the Department of Mental Health and the State of South Carolina. The members take great pleasure in wishing him well as he enters retirement and trusts he will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate, by this resolution, recognize Joseph V. Caputo of Sumter, upon the occasion of his retirement after more than forty‑two years of outstanding service, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Joseph V. Caputo.

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