**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. STUART A. HAMILTON FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED MEDICAL SERVICE AND HIS UNPARALLELED HUMANITARIAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF HIS FELLOW MAN.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn of the tireless and outstanding work of Dr. Stuart A. Hamilton for the medically underserved in our State; and

Whereas, Stuart Hamilton earned a bachelor’s from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, and a medical doctorate from Columbia University in New York; and

Whereas, Dr. Hamilton served as a pediatric intern and resident at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center’s Babies Hospital in New York and as the chief pediatric resident at Richland Memorial Hospital’s Department of Pediatrics in Columbia; and

Whereas, with meritorious distinction, he served his country in the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps and was called to active duty with his unit during Operation Desert Shield in 1991, attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel before he retired; and

Whereas, from 1976 to 1978, Dr. Hamilton served as an officer in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps; from 1979 to 1981, he served as the medical director for the South Carolina Department of Youth Services in Columbia; and he has served as a clinical associate professor of pediatrics at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine; and

Whereas, in 1981, Dr. Hamilton founded Eau Claire Pediatrics, a private pediatric practice for the medically underserved of Columbia, serving as its director until 1993 when he founded Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center (ECCHC), a non‑profit, community based, primary medical care safety‑net system that was granted Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) status. Under his direction, it operates twenty clinical sites in the Midlands; and

Whereas, the largest community health center system in the State, ECCHC denies services to no one due to inability to pay and is ranked in the top fifty of the nation’s community health center systems for size and medical productivity; and

Whereas, his published research and studies on the amount of vitamin D necessary during pregnancy are having a marked impact on obstetrics practices and the quality of life for infants; and

Whereas, in 1996, Dr. Hamilton was chosen as the initial medical director for Select Health of South Carolina, Inc., the state’s first and largest Medicaid managed care provider for low‑income individuals, covering more than a quarter of a million lives; and

Whereas, in January 2013, ECCHC launched the Innovations Health program in partnership with Select Health to improve access to health care by supporting providers with tools to improve health outcomes, such as NaviNet, a Web‑based portal that provides free access to patient information, including benefits, eligibility, medications, gaps in care, and hospital visits; and

Whereas, Dr. Hamilton served as an international consultant in the Republic of South Africa to assist in developing a primary care center, resulting in the completion of a new eight thousand square foot community primary care clinic in Esikhawini in 2007; and

Whereas, founder, sponsor, and coach of the youth City Fencing Club, he serves as a member of the board of the South Carolina Rural Health Association Loan Review, South Carolina Primary Health Care Association, Bethel Christian Camp, The Nurturing Center, Jubilee Academy, Rotary Club of Spring Valley, Columbia Museum of Art, and Precepts on Precepts Bible Study; and

Whereas, among his numerous awards for humanitarian service, he was honored in 2007 with the Order of the Palmetto, the state’s highest civilian award; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife of forty‑three years, Barbara Johnson Hamilton, he reared two fine children: Rhia Olivia and Stuart Arnim II; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is profoundly grateful for the dedication and commitment that Dr. Hamilton has sacrificially maintained to the medically underserved in the Midlands and across the Palmetto State for over thirty years. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Dr. Stuart A. Hamilton for his distinguished medical service and his unparalleled humanitarian contributions to the health and welfare of his fellow man.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Stuart A. Hamilton.

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