**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR WILLIAM L. “BILL” FLEMING, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF MARLBORO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER FORTY‑THREE YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the members of the South Carolina Senate should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to William L. “Bill” Fleming for his significant contributions to Marlboro Electric Cooperative; and

Whereas, in 1971, after working with investor-owned utility Carolina Power and Light Company, Mr. Fleming began serving Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, where he served as vice president of office and customer service and government relations for twenty‑four years before joining Marlboro Electric Cooperative in Bennettsville, South Carolina, and has been the president and chief executive officer of the cooperative since 1996; and

Whereas, Mr. Fleming has also served as an officer on the Board of Trustees for the Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina, where he currently serves as secretary/treasurer and is a member of the board for the Cooperative Electric Energy Utility Supply (CEE‑US) as well as the executive committee of Central Electric Power Cooperative; and

Whereas, Mr. Fleming served on the Darlington County School District Board of Trustees for ten years and was chairman the majority of those years, where he played an instrumental role in the founding of Mayo Magnet School for Science and Math in Darlington, which is now ranked as one of the top high schools in the state of South Carolina; and

Whereas, Mr. Fleming was instrumental in the implementation of the Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership Board, where he served as their first chairman beginning in 1997; and

Whereas, he is also a member of the Dillon County Economic Development Public‑Private Partnership, chairs the Carolinas I‑95 Mega Site Board, and has served on the board of the Palmetto Economic Development Corporation; and

Whereas, in April of 2000, Mr. Fleming was named a South Carolina Ambassador for Economic Development by Governor Jim Hodges due to his untiring efforts to bring business and industry to rural counties, and in 2006 he was awarded the Distinguished Cooperator of the Year by the South Carolina Cooperative Council; and

Whereas, Mr. Fleming’s deep commitment to the service of his state and community has continued through his service on the 1st Cooperative Federal Credit Union Board of Directors, the board of directors for First Citizens Bank of Darlington, his membership in the Darlington County Chamber of Commerce, the Marlboro County Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis Club of Darlington, the Rotary Club of Bennettsville and the Darlington County Jetport Committee; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the decades of unparalleled dedication and outstanding leadership Mr. Fleming has given to Marlboro Electric Cooperative, and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate, by this resolution, recognizes and honors William L. “Bill” Fleming, President and CEO of Marlboro Electric Cooperative Inc., upon the occasion of his retirement after forty‑three years of exemplary service, and wishes him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to William L. “Bill” Fleming.

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