**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE FOURTH ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA EMS MEMORIAL BIKE RIDE FOR HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN OF THEMSELVES WHILE RENDERING AID TO THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the South Carolina EMS Memorial Bike Ride, the fourth event of its kind in South Carolina, was instituted to memorialize those who have lost their lives in the line of duty or passed away after a lifelong career in emergency medicine. The bike ride also celebrates and honors those presently serving across the Palmetto State, who daily put their lives in harm’s way to help others in times of need; and

Whereas, the ride will start on the grounds of the South Carolina EMS Memorial, located in Calhoun County, on March 19, 2013, and finish in Myrtle Beach on March 21, 2013, at the beginning of the 2013 South Carolina Emergency Medical Service Symposium; and

Whereas, this annual event promotes outdoor activity, exercise, and a healthy lifestyle as participants complete the over two hundred mile ride in the required twenty hours of biking; and

Whereas, those being mourned and honored with this ride come from all regions of the State. The memorial ride honorees for 2013 are Clarence Taylor, Howard Riley, Ronald Singleton, Brian Hudson, Joseph Kay, Belinda “Gale” Rivers, Randy Price, Floyd “Buddy” Altman, Shirley Guyton, Joey Smith, Grady Harper, Charles Rorie, Carolyn McCombs, William “Will” W. Matthews III, Robert Meeker, Clark Poland, Theodore Henson, Wanda Pierce, Charles Rolen, and Connie Rogers; and

Whereas, on this memorial ride the riders will honor three Line of Duty Deaths with the passing of Gale Rivers of Sandhills Ambulance Service, Buddy Altman of Dillon County EMS, and Will Matthews III of Clarendon County EMS, all of whom were providers that gave their all to their chosen career of pre-hospital emergency care; and

Whereas, the General Assembly takes great pleasure in recognizing such a praiseworthy cause as the South Carolina EMS Memorial Bike Ride, and the members wish to commend its riders, support staff, and sponsors and wish them much success at this year’s event. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and commend the fourth annual South Carolina EMS Memorial Bike Ride for honoring those who have given of themselves while rendering aid to the citizens of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to South Carolina EMS Memorial Bike Ride, Inc.

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