**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR WALTER G. “SONNY” NEWMAN, FORMER SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, AFTER SIXTEEN YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF SUMTER, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to Walter G. “Sonny” Newman for his significant contributions to the Sumter City Council; and

Whereas, a graduate of Furman High School, Sonny Newman earned a bachelor’s from the University of South Carolina and then taught and coached at Hillcrest High School; and

Whereas, he married his beloved wife, Dr. Judy Newman, in 1976, and together they reared two fine children: Graham, an attorney in Columbia: and Britt, an assistant professor at Wofford College. They have been blessed with three adoring grandchildren: Alex, John Walter, and Iris; and

Whereas, in 1978, he earned a juris doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law and has served Sumter County in the practice of law with dedication and distinction since that time; and

Whereas, Mr. Newman continues to serve as a certified mediator for cases in the Court of Common Pleas and frequently hears law suits as special referee, by reference, from that court; and

Whereas, as a member of the bar, Sonny Newman served on the South Carolina Bar Client Protection Committee, and he served two terms as an attorney to assist for the Office of the Disciplinary Counsel of the South Carolina Supreme Court; and

Whereas, as a member of the Sumter City Council for Ward 4 from 1996 until November 2012, he represented the City Council on the Sumter County Development Board, served on the Joint Sumter‑Columbia Empowerment Zone Board, and chaired the Sumter Jobs and Economic Development Committee for the Sumter Empowerment Zone; and

Whereas, for eight years, he served as the co‑chair of the Sumter City Council/County Council Liaison Committee, and he served as the city appointee to the Sumter County School District Consolidation Transition Committee; and

Whereas, an ardent supporter of his community, Mr. Newman has served as the chairman of the Education Funds Drive for American Cancer Society, Sumter County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and Hampton Park Neighborhood Association; and

Whereas, he chaired the Aldersgate United Methodist Church Intercultural Relations Committee, the Sumter County Democratic Party from 1990 to 1996, and the Sumter County First Steps Board from 2002 to the present; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the years of dedication that Sonny Newman has devoted to the Sumter City Council and are pleased to learn that his service there will be honored at an event to be held on February 22, 2013. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Walter G. “Sonny” Newman, former Sumter City Council member, after sixteen years of outstanding service to the citizens of Sumter, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Walter G. “Sonny” Newman.

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