**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT ROB PADGETT AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR BEING NAMED THE SENIOR NON‑COMMISSIONED OFFICER (SNCO) OF THE YEAR FOR THE 823D RED HORSE SQUADRON AND THE HEADQUARTERS 9TH AIR FORCE SNCO OF THE YEAR.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the sacrifice of those like Senior Master Sergeant Rob Padgett, who defend the freedoms we so richly enjoy by serving in the United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas, born in Barnwell on April 24, 1973, he eventually moved with his mother to Sumter where he graduated from Furman High School in 1991. During his senior year, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and entered active duty on January 15, 1992; and

Whereas, he tested at Basic Training for a direct duty assignment as a carpentry apprentice and was assigned to Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida; and

Whereas, Senior Master Sergeant Padgett’s many assignments have included duty at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan; Hurlburt Field in Florida; and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in North Carolina. He has completed tours in Korea, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kyrgyzstan, where he served as the squadron superintendent and enlisted leader for 235 deployed Airmen and earned praise from the US FORCES‑AFGHANISTAN commander for humanitarian efforts while deployed; and

Whereas, five different Squadrons in which he served earned the Curtin Award as the best civil engineer squadron in the United States Air Force; and

Whereas, Senior Master Sergeant Padgett is currently the structural superintendent assigned to the legendary 823d Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer, known and revered throughout the Air Force as the RED HORSE Squadron, at Hurlburt Field, Florida; and

Whereas, other noteworthy teams he has served have earned the Air Force’s top readiness flight where he served as the squadron’s prime base engineer emergency force manager, the Air Force’s best civil engineer operations flight, and the Air Force’s number‑one enlisted programs’ recruiting squadron; and

Whereas, his military service has been honored three times with the Meritorious Service Medal; two times each with the US Army Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Achievement Medal; the Joint Meritorious Unit Citation; two awards for the Air Force Meritorious Unit; and four awards for Outstanding Unit; and

Whereas, most recently, he was recognized as the SNCO of the Year for the 823d RED HORSE Squadron and the Headquarters 9TH Air Force SNCO of the Year; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the pride and recognition that Senior Master Sergeant Padgett has brought to his community and to the Palmetto State as the SNCO of the Year for the 823d RED HORSE Squadron and the Headquarters 9TH Air Force SNCO of the Year, and the members wish him continued success in his distinguished military career. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Senior Master Sergeant Rob Padgett and congratulate him for being named the Senior Non‑Commissioned Officer (SNCO) of the Year for the 823d RED HORSE Squadron and the Headquarters 9TH Air Force SNCO of the Year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Senior Master Sergeant Rob Padgett.

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