**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR SERGEANT FIRST CLASS HERBERT LAVANDER “HERB” JONES, ASSISTANT TO THE SERGEANT‑AT‑ARMS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO BID HIM GODSPEED UNTIL HE RETURNS FROM DEPLOYING TO AFGHANISTAN WITH THE FORCES OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

Whereas, a member of the United States Army Reserves for twenty years, Sergeant First Class Herbert Jones has served his country with honor and distinction, including a previous tour of duty in Iraq with Operation Enduring Freedom; and

Whereas, he will report again for duty on May 30, 2013, to deploy with the 143rd CS CMD Sustainment Expeditionary to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom for a tour of four hundred days; and

Whereas, in 1999, he earned a bachelor’s from Lander University and graduated from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Police Academy in 2000, and for the last thirteen years, he has graced the halls of the South Carolina State House, protecting those who frequent these corridors from the very real threat of football, basketball, and soccer players, not to mention golfers and lobbyists; and

Whereas, while unfazed by fending off aggressive two‑legged visitors to the State House grounds, Herb has been known to flee to the shrubbery during a run when a State House squirrel, a fearsome breed, stands its ground in his path;

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to retire the mirrors in the office of the Sergeant‑at‑Arms and the House ante chamber until Herb Jones returns from his deployment to gaze upon his reflection that grows more attractive to him daily; and

Whereas, because of his generous humor that leaves everyone smiling, Herb is fondly known around the State House as “Herbilicious,” like a scrumptious dessert, and he is sometimes called “Herbules” for his proven ability to bench press three hundred fifteen pounds in a business suit; and

Whereas, in his absence, his beloved wife, Janel, will marshal the troops at home, his three fine children: Herbie, Jr.; Morgan; and Olivia; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives will miss the smile, humor, and charm of this proud son of the Palmetto State in our halls as he deploys to protect America abroad, and we pray for his safe return. 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, honor Sergeant First Class Herbert Lavander “Herb” Jones, assistant to the Sergeant‑at‑Arms of the House of Representatives, and bid him Godspeed until he returns from deploying to Afghanistan with the forces of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Herbert Lavander Jones.

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