**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO REMEMBER AND CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN BYRON A. WILEY, U.S. NAVY (RET.) (1931‑2011), TO HONOR HIS STRONG COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION, AND TO EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE WITH THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY EMERGING SCHOLARS PROGRAM.

Whereas, born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, on June 29, 1931, Byron A. Wiley proved to be an avid student, leader, world traveler, and advocate for equality in, and access to, higher education. He became the proud husband of Carol Ann Wiley and the delighted father of a son, Alex, and three daughters, Celeste, Adrienne, and Joanna; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, he earned his bachelor’s degree from Creighton University and master’s degrees from Drake University and the University of Southern California. He was also an alumnus of the National Defense University and Harvard University’s Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program; and

Whereas, during his thirty‑year career as a U.S. Naval flight officer, Captain Wiley was designated a “proven specialist” in human resource management and military intelligence. He spent time in service in England’s Royal Navy as part of the Military Personnel Exchange Program and was the first African American in the history of the U.S. Navy to serve as personal aide to an admiral; and

Whereas, following his time in the Navy, Captain Wiley served in consultant and assistant positions at several distinguished institutions, including Johns Hopkins University, University of California‑Santa Barbara (where he served as vice chancellor), and Pennsylvania State University. Eventually, he was appointed system director of social equity for Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education, where he served for ten years; and

Whereas, at Clemson University, Captain Wiley realized one of his greatest accomplishments, the creation of the Emerging Scholars Program. A college outreach effort targeting high school students in economically depressed areas of the State, the Emerging Scholars Program has made higher education a reality since 2002 for students who have not seen college in their future. More than a decade later, the program is still going strong and has helped more than four hundred students reach their goal of college attendance; and

Whereas, on November 27, 2011, Captain Wiley passed away, but his legacy remains; and

Whereas, grateful for that legacy of consistent dedication and excellence Captain Wiley bestowed on this great State, the House takes great pleasure in remembering his committed labors on behalf of South Carolina’s students and in adding its warmest commendation to the many accolades that have flowed in over the years to this distinguished military man, administrator, and champion of education. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, remember and celebrate the life of Captain Byron A. Wiley, U.S Navy (Ret.) (1931‑2011), honor his strong commitment to education, and express the gratitude of the South Carolina House of Representatives for his many years of outstanding service with the Clemson University Emerging Scholars Program.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Carol Ann Wiley.

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