**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JOE PINNER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PALMETTO STATE AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM UPON HIS GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY WITH WIS TV.

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly are pleased to learn that Joe Pinner will be honored for fifty years of dedicated service to WIS TV and to the citizens of the Midlands at an event in his honor on May 27, 2013; and

Whereas, when he was fifteen years old, Joe Pinner began his career in broadcasting at radio stations in New Bern and Morehead City, North Carolina; and

Whereas, after his graduation from high school, he worked at Chapel Hill’s radio station WCHL, while attending the University of North Carolina, and then he returned home to New Bern to continue his broadcasting career; and

Whereas, he moved to Jacksonville, Florida, in 1955 where he joined WMBR‑TV/Radio. He then served in the United States Army for two years and was stationed at Fort Jackson, where he managed the Armed Forces Radio station WFJX; and

Whereas, after completing his military service, he returned to Jacksonville until joining WIS TV in 1963, and since then he has served at various times as anchor of *The 7:00 Report*, weatherman for *WIS Live at Five*, co‑host of *WIS News Midday*, and host of *The Mr. Knozit Show*; and

Whereas, in the 1960s, Joe Pinner began to delight children in the Midlands with *The Mr. Knozit Show*, for which he received the national George Foster Peabody award in 1967, and over the years those children, now adults, grew to depend on his reporting on WIS; and

Whereas, although he now enjoys semi‑retirement, he still remains active at the station and can be seen on various newscasts on Friday’s, thus our Mr. Knozit has become our “Joe Friday”; and

Whereas, his countless awards from around the State have included the South Carolina Tourism Award from the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce in 1976 for his contribution to the growth and development of the tourism industry in South Carolina, appointment as “Emperor” of Little Mountain in 1982, initiation into Omicron Kappa Delta at Columbia College as an honorary member in 1990, and the addition of his star to The Celebrity Walk of Fame in Myrtle Beach in 1993; and

Whereas, in 1993, he received the Masters Award from the South Carolina Broadcasters Association, an award which honors individuals for distinguished careers as on‑air broadcasters in South Carolina, and in 1998, he was inducted into the South Carolina Entertainment Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, in 1982, Governor Richard Riley named Joe Pinner to the Order of the Palmetto, the state’s highest civilian honor. In 1993 for service to the State, Governor Carroll Campbell awarded him the honor again upon the celebration of his thirtieth anniversary with WIS; and upon semi‑retirement in 2000, he received the award a third time for his work as “Mr. Knozit” from Governor Jim Hodges; and

Whereas, among his numerous public service commitments, he serves on the Philharmonic’s Advisory Council, and as narrator and master of ceremonies for the South Carolina Philharmonic Orchestra youth concerts, is a member of the Blythewood Cultural Arts Association, and as an ambassador of Honor Flight SC; and

Whereas, he is a member of the Media Club, Some Legendary Old Broadcasters (SLOBS), Greater Columbia Community Relations Luncheon Club, Friday the 13th Club, and Trinity United Methodist Church choir in Blythewood; and

Whereas, together with his beloved his wife, Peggy, he reared two fine sons, Michael and Gregg, who blessed their parents with four devoted grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly appreciate the dedication with which Joe Pinner has served his community and the State and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors. 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 honor Joe Pinner for his outstanding contributions to the Palmetto State and congratulate him upon his golden anniversary with WIS TV.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Joe Pinner.

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