**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE STEPHEN R. FOWLER, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CREDIT UNION LEAGUE, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AND TO RECOGNIZE HIM FOR HIS OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND COOPERATIVE SPIRIT IN SERVICE TO SOUTH CAROLINA’S CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT, CREDIT UNION MEMBERS, AND CITIZENS AT LARGE.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly has learned that Stephen R. Fowler of Lexington, president and CEO of the South Carolina Credit Union League, will retire on December 31, 2013; and

Whereas, Mr. Fowler, a native of Mullins, began his service to South Carolina credit unions in 1971 as a credit union auditor. Over the years, he progressed through the ranks to member services representative, administrative assistant to the president of the South Carolina Credit Union League, manager of Credit Union Marketing Services, Inc., director of financial services, and vice president of corporate and correspondent services; and

Whereas, he connected passion for credit unions with social and diplomatic skill to reach the position of executive vice president of advocacy, and in 2010 he was named president and CEO of the South Carolina Credit Union League; and

Whereas, driven by a cooperative spirit, he has assisted through nonprofit credit unions in providing access to services vital to so many, especially where these services are not offered by other financial institutions; and

Whereas, during his tenure, Steve Fowler has served as a member of the Richmond District of the United States Federal Reserve Advisory Board, the Governor of South Carolina’s Anti‑Predatory Lending Task Force, and the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs Advisory Council. He is also a trustee of Southeastern Regional Credit Union Schools, member of numerous Credit Union National Association committees, and board member for the Carolinas Credit Union Foundation; and

Whereas, throughout his forty‑two years in the credit union movement, he has been a steadfast supporter and defender of each institution, employee, volunteer director, member, consumer, and community and, as such, has influenced the lives of millions of South Carolinians for the better; and

Whereas, in addition, Steve Fowler served his country in the United States Army National Guard and is to this day dedicated to his family, friends, and church, serving each with equal care and concern; and

Whereas, joined in extending best wishes for the future by the members of the House of Representatives, most particularly Representatives Todd K. Atwater, Nathan Ballentine, Kenny Bingham, Chip Huggins, Ralph Shealy Kennedy, Jr., Harry L. Ott, Jr., Rick Quinn, L. Kit Spires, and Mac Toole of the Lexington County Delegation, along with Representatives Joe Daning and Jenny Horne, the Senate expresses deep and sincere appreciation to Mr. Fowler for his distinguished service and outstanding contributions to South Carolina’s credit unions and the citizens of this great State. 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, congratulate Stephen R. Fowler, president and CEO of the South Carolina Credit Union League, on the occasion of his retirement and recognize him for his outstanding leadership and cooperative spirit in service to South Carolina’s credit union movement, credit union members, and citizens at large.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Stephen R. Fowler.

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