**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO CREATE THE MEDAL OF HONOR MONUMENT COMMISSION AND PROVIDE FOR THE COMMISSION’S MEMBERSHIP, DUTIES, AND RELATED MATTERS.

Whereas, the Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the people of South Carolina express their appreciation to those individuals who have earned the nation’s highest military honor by erecting an appropriate monument located on the grounds of the State House. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. The Medal of Honor Monument Commission is created to design and establish an appropriate monument to be placed on the grounds of the Capitol Complex to recognize and honor the members of the Armed Services of the United States of America who have been awarded the Medal of Honor.

The commission is authorized to determine whether funds for the monument should be derived from public or private sources, and the commission is authorized to designate the location of the monument. If the commission determines funds for the monument should be derived from private sources, the commission is empowered and directed to raise private funds, to receive private grants, and to receive gifts to carry out the purpose for which the commission is created. If the commission determines funding for the monument should be public, the commission may recommend an appropriation for the monument.

By February 1, 2015, the commission shall report the proposed design, location, and dedication date to the State House Committee.

By March 1, 2015, the commission shall report the proposed design, location, and dedication date of the monument to the General Assembly and shall include its recommendations as to funding and a report as to any funds collected from private sources.

Upon the dedication of this monument, the commission is dissolved. Upon dissolution, the State shall ensure proper maintenance of the monument as is done for other historical monuments on the grounds of the Capitol Complex.

The commission must be comprised of three members of the Senate to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, three members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and three members who may or may not be members of the General Assembly to be appointed by the Governor. Notwithstanding Section 8‑13‑770 of the 1976 Code of Laws or any other provision of law, members of the General Assembly may be appointed to this commission and may serve on the commission.

Commission members are not entitled to receive the subsistence, mileage, and per diem otherwise provided by law for members of state boards, committees, and commissions.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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