**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND DR. JOHN M. WHITTINGTON OF MARION FOR HIS OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON RECEIVING THE 2015 MARION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the members of the South Carolina General Assembly honor individuals who freely give of their time and resources for the good of others; and

Whereas, Dr. John M. Whittington, a well‑loved and respected Marion dentist for more than forty years, has humbly contributed invaluable community service to the citizens of the Palmetto State and is thereby worthy of high praise; and

Whereas, a native of Marion, Dr. Whittington graduated from Francis Marion University in 1972 and received a doctor of dental medicine degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1975, completing an accelerated program intended to address a shortage of dental care in the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, in the forty years since Dr. Whittington began his dental practice, he has served with distinction on professional associations and as a member and chairman of the State Board of Dentistry; and

Whereas, a man of deep Christian faith, Dr. Whittington has served countless terms as a deacon in his church, has volunteered for over twenty years with Baptist Medical and Dental Missions, for which he has traveled overseas to assist the needy with dental care, and has volunteered for the Marion County Helping Hands Free Dental Clinic since its inception; and

Whereas, Dr. Whittington has maintained a steadfast dedication to improving his community. He has been a member of the Marion Rotary Club for over thirty‑five years, during which he has served as president and has been involved in its Coat Project and Chicken Bog Fundraisers for Francis Marion University scholarships. Dr. Whittington also has been an active supporter of the American Cancer Society, the United Way of Marion County, the Jaycees, and the Marion Chamber of Commerce; and

Whereas, besides his civic, church, and professional commitments, Dr. Whittington is the consummate family man. In 1971 he married the former Jane Myers of Scranton, and together Johnny and Jane have reared two fine sons: Dr. Carson Whittington, who practices dentistry with his father, and Alex Whittington, who is pursuing a degree in dentistry. They also have been blessed with four beautiful grandchildren and a wonderful daughter-in-law, Alicia; and

Whereas, in short, Dr. John M. Whittington has given tirelessly to make Marion and the regions beyond a better place to work and live; and

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly recognize that the success of the State of South Carolina and the strength of its communities depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like Dr. John M. Whittington who use their talents and resources to serve others. Accordingly, the members take great pleasure in saluting Dr. Whittington on receiving the 2015 Marion Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and commend Dr. John M. Whittington of Marion for his outstanding community service to the people of South Carolina and congratulate him on receiving the 2015 Marion Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. John M. Whittington.

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