**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATH OF JOSEPH V. CAPUTO OF SUMTER AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Joseph V. Caputo of Sumter on October 29, 2015, at the age of seventy‑two; and

Whereas, born on January 28, 1943, in Dearborn, Michigan, Joe was a son of the late Dr. Joseph M. Caputo and Lillian Grasser Caputo. He graduated from Marquette University in 1966 and in 1967 entered the U.S. Air Force as a captain and served as an aircraft maintenance officer until 1971. He went on to earn a master’s degree in guidance counseling from the University of South Carolina and completed doctoral work toward a degree in counseling supervision; and

Whereas, Joe spent the remainder of his career serving the State of South Carolina, retiring in 2014 after forty‑two years of service with the South Carolina Department of Mental Health. During his tenure, he held positions as an addictions specialist and mental health counselor in Sumter before serving as director of the Lee County Mental Health Clinic and training director of the Santee‑Wateree Mental Health Center until 1995. Instrumental in the organization of the Sumter County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, he served on the advisory board of Liberty House, which assisted recovering alcoholics in their return to a productive life; and

Whereas, as an active member in the South Carolina State Employees Association, Joe was a critical part of the SCSEA’s success during his entire membership period. Joe served as president of the SCSEA for two consecutive terms (1988 and 1989), was the association’s statewide legislative chairman, and was elected to the SCSEA’s executive committee. Locally, he served as president and legislative chairman of the SCSEA Sumter Chapter for a number of years. He was selected as the chapter’s Outstanding State Employee in both 1981 and 1994. In 1985, Joe was named the SCSEA’s Outstanding Male State Employee; and

Whereas, Joe had a long record of service to his community and church. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, former director of the Sumter Jaycees, member of the Sumter County Council on Alcoholism and the American Association for Counseling and Development, member and past president of the Sumter County Drug Council, and chairman of the Lee County Health Department Advisory Board. He coached the ladies’ softball team at St. Anne’s Roman Catholic Church and was a leader of the church’s Eternal Life Prayer Group. In addition, he served as vice president of the St. Anne’s/St. Jude’s bowling league; and

Whereas, Joe Caputo leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Janet Rogers Caputo; his six children, Kelly Atkinson of Chapin, Kristen Daniels (Jesse) of Eutawville, Kandice Norton (J.D.) of Charleston, Katie Caputo (Lance Stout) of Washington, Kristie Vise (Mark) of Kentucky, and David Griswold (Sara) of Kentucky; his nine grandchildren, Audrey Ann and McKinney Atkinson, M.J. and Jaden Stutts, Dane and Lexy Daniels, Gray and Ash Norton, and Tyler Vise; a brother, Rick Caputo (Sue); and a host of other relatives and friends. Well known for his caring nature and his quick wit, as well as his love of the outdoors, hunting, and all things Red Wings, Joe will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the death of Joseph V. Caputo of Sumter and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Janet Rogers Caputo for the family.

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