**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATH OF THOMPSON JAMESON “TOM” WATSON OF BISHOPVILLE 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 Thompson Jameson “Tom” Watson of Bishopville on April 16, 2016, at the venerable age of eighty‑eight; and

Whereas, born to Jesse Samuel “Delop” Watson and Serina Hill Watson, Tom Watson entered this world on October 16, 1927, when the twentieth century was still in its youth, and he was a witness to nearly all the incredible changes and developments that have come to this nation from that time into the second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, as a young man, Tom Watson served his country as a military policeman both stateside and in the Philippine Islands during World War II; and

Whereas, in the fullness of time, he met the lovely Fannie White, and the two were joined in a marriage that lasted sixty years. God blessed their union with two sons, Thompson, Jr., and Mark; a daughter, Lila; grandchildren; and a great‑granddaughter. His family was always Tom’s first love; and

Whereas, his second love was sports. In 1949, he pitched for the Bishopville Amateurs Baseball Club, which won fourteen straight games. He also played semipro baseball for the Sumter Chicks. In addition, Tom played local and statewide tennis throughout his life into his 80s. Over the years, he won many tournaments, among them the 1988 South Carolina Senior Hard Court Championship in Columbia; and

Whereas, Tom Watson leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife, Fannie W. Watson; his sons Thompson J. “Bubba” Watson, Jr., and Mark S. Watson; daughter Lila M. Watson; five grandchildren; one great‑grandchild; and other relatives and friends. He will be missed. 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 Thompson Jameson “Tom” Watson of Bishopville and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Fannie W. Watson for the family.

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