**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE COLONEL ZEB C. WILLIAMS III, STATE JUDGE ADVOCATE FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO SALUTE HIM FOR THIRTY YEARS OF EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND THE GUARD, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, on behalf of all South Carolinians, acknowledge with deep appreciation the great sacrifice that the men and women of our armed forces make for the ideals of freedom and justice, which are so richly enjoyed in these United States of America; and

Whereas, Colonel Zeb C. Williams III stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by their respective states and nation; and

Whereas, over the course of his career, Colonel Williams has served with a distinction that has earned him the respect of all who have had the privilege of working with him. For the past two years, he has served as state judge advocate for the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG). This post proved to be the culminating and concluding role of his three‑decade career in the United States Army and SCARNG, a long and honorable service that was formally recognized on May 15, 2016, at a ceremony held at the Adjutant General Complex in Columbia; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, Colonel Williams earned his undergraduate degree from The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, being honored as a Distinguished Military Graduate of that revered institution in 1986. Three years later, he received his juris doctor from the University of South Carolina School of Law; and

Whereas, his military career began on active duty with the First Cavalry Division, where he was deployed to both Saudi Arabia and Iraq during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. In 1992, Colonel Williams returned to South Carolina, serving with the United States Army Reserve’s 12th Legal Services Organization. In 1998, he transferred to the South Carolina Army National Guard, where he took up his duties in a number of assignments with National Guard units in South Carolina; completed three tours in Afghanistan with great distinction, earning two Bronze Star Medals; and, as the capstone of a truly wonderful career, was appointed in 2014 to serve as state judge advocate for the South Carolina Army National Guard by the adjutant general, Major General Robert E. Livingston, Jr.; and

Whereas, concurrently with his military career, Zeb Williams has served since 2001 with the South Carolina Legislative Council as an attorney. The House is pleased to learn that he will continue to serve his State in that capacity in the days ahead; and

Whereas, on the home front, Colonel Williams and his wife, Dianna, have five children, Carson, Jeffrey, Julia, Alex, and Cameron; and

Whereas, grateful for the legacy of consistent commitment and excellence Colonel Zeb Williams has bestowed on this great State and nation, the House takes much pleasure in wishing him well as he enters retirement from his military service and trusts he will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Colonel Zeb C. Williams III, state judge advocate for the South Carolina Army National Guard, upon the occasion of his retirement, salute him for thirty years of exceptionally meritorious service in the United States Army and the Guard, and extend best wishes for continued success and fulfillment in the years to come.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Colonel Zeb C. Williams III.

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