**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF EUGENE “GENE” DAVIS OF LEE COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LARGE AND LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Eugene “Gene” Davis at the age of eighty‑one on May 28, 2016; and

Whereas, born on January 5, 1935, he was the son of the late Jefferson Marion and the late Tance Hancock Davis; and

Whereas, Mr. Davis began his lifelong career at Palmetto Oil Company, where he served in many capacities for fifty‑seven years, thirty‑one of which as a manager; and

Whereas, on October 4, 1953, he married his beloved wife, Viva Olivia Stokes, at Salem Methodist Church, and together they reared three fine daughters: Kathi Davis Schuitema of Isle of Palms, Debbie Davis Babb of Bishopville, and Tammy Davis Moshier of Columbia. His children blessed him with the love of five grandchildren: David Paul Babb of Charleston; Jeffrey Alan Schuitema of Guam; Katherine Lee Schuitema Penny of Greenville; William Arthur Joseph of Columbia; and Laura Claire Moshier of Columbia; and

Whereas, dedicated to his community, Mr. Davis was a charter member of the Bishopville Rescue Squad and a member of Bethlehem United Methodist Church, as well as a Masonic member and a Shriner; and

Whereas, in the patriotic tradition of the sons of the Palmetto State, he served in the South Carolina National Guard; and

Whereas, in 1986, Mr. Davis was elected president of the Southern Southeastern Cotton Growers and Ginners Association and was honored as the Ginner of the Year that same year; and

Whereas, Mr. Davis was a charter member of a group of friends who created a Tuesday night supper club, where the members enjoyed friendship and a meal of steak or shrimp every Tuesday night for more than fifty years; and

Whereas, with his cherished dachshund companion, he spent many industrious hours tending his vegetable garden, the bounty of which he enjoyed sharing with his friends. He especially enjoyed fishing in his pond and at Okeechobee, Florida; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the life and legacy of Gene Davis and for the example of friendship and loyalty he set for all who knew 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 passing of Eugene “Gene” Davis of Lee County and extend their deepest sympathy to his large and loving family and his many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Eugene “Gene” Davis.

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