**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE RALPH SHEALY KENNEDY, JR., FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON BEHALF OF HIS CONSTITUENTS IN LEXINGTON AND SALUDA COUNTIES AND THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives learned with sincere regret that Ralph Shealy Kennedy, Jr., will depart from the House of Representatives at the conclusion of his current term; and

Whereas, born in Columbia on October 21, 1958, he is the son of Jo‑Ann Kearse Kennedy and the late Ralph Shealy Kennedy, Sr. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Clemson University and a juris doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law; and

Whereas, after law school, Ralph served as a law clerk for the Honorable Julius H. Baggett and as the assistant solicitor of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit from 1987 to 1995. He is a member of the South Carolina Bar and is admitted to practice before the United States District Court of South Carolina and the United States Court of Appeals of the Fourth Circuit; and

Whereas, he married his beloved wife, Lisa Bucko, in 1982, and together they reared two fine children, Carlisle Evans and Lauren Elizabeth. Representative Kennedy resides in Leesville, where he practices law; and

Whereas, a faithful member of St. Johns Methodist Church in Batesburg, he enjoys membership in ALEC, the NRA, and Ducks Unlimited; and

Whereas, deeply involved in his community, Ralph Kennedy served as a member of the board of trustees for Lexington County School District 3 from 1996 to 2012, serving four terms as its chairman. He served on the board of directors of the Batesburg‑Leesville Chamber of Commerce and was a former president of the Batesburg‑Leesville Lions International and the Batesburg‑Leesville Rotary Club where he was named a Paul Harris Fellow; and

Whereas, as a loyal supporter of his alma mater, he served as the past chairman of the Clemson University Parent’s Council and as the alumni director of ATO Fraternity; and

Whereas, Representative Kennedy has faithfully served the citizens of District 39 in the House of Representatives since 2013, during which time he has served on the Judiciary and the Regulations and Administrative Procedures committees and the Criminal Law Subcommittee. He also served as the assistant majority whip and as a member of the Sportsmen’s Caucus; and

Whereas, in all of his service, Ralph Kennedy has provided reasoned advice to his colleagues and affable guidance in this chamber; and

Whereas, the members of the House will miss the keen and diligent service that Ralph Kennedy, their friend and colleague, has given to the House of Representatives and hope that he will enjoy deep fulfillment in the years to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend the HonorableRalph Shealy Kennedy, Jr., for his dedicated service in the House of Representatives on behalf of his constituents in Lexington and Saluda counties and the citizens of South Carolina and wish him much success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable Ralph Shealy Kennedy, Jr.

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