**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM MICHAEL STEELE, USA (RETIRED), FOR HIS SIX YEARS OF DEDICATED AND OUTSTANDING SERVICE ON THE CITADEL BOARD OF VISITORS AND, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE BOARD, TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Whereas, for six years, The Citadel Board of Visitors has enjoyed the benefit of the dedication, experience, and leadership of Lieutenant General William Michael Steele, USA (Retired), who in 2015 will step down from his post as a member of the board; and

Whereas, as a 1967 alumnus of The Citadel, Mike Steele returned to serve on the Board of Visitors of his alma mater in 2009, bringing with him a wealth of experience and insight in all aspects of strategic planning. Using these gifts, he made invaluable contributions to the support and sustenance of The Citadel’s unique mission of developing principled leaders for our communities, State, and nation; and

Whereas, after completing his undergraduate degree, Mike Steele, to prepare himself further for his career, continued his education at Webster University, from which he received a master’s degree in management. In addition, he graduated from the National War College; and

Whereas, General Steele retired in September 2001 with more than thirty‑four years of active military service, including command and staff experience from platoon through division and U.S. Army major command, serving as battalion advisor for the 23rd Ranger Battalion and operations advisor for the 2nd Ranger Group, Vietnam; commanding general, 82nd Airborne Division; commanding general, U.S. Army Pacific; and deputy commandant for the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and

Whereas, General Steele’s awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and Bronze Star Medal; and

Whereas, during his service on The Citadel Board of Visitors, he has served on several committees, including Athletics, Audit, Customs and Regulations, Executive, and Finance. As chair of the Strategic Planning Committee from 2009 to 2013, he was instrumental in the development of the BLUEprint and the subsequent LEAD Plan 2018; and

Whereas, in his current position as chair of the board, he has been instrumental in the construction of Lines of Effort to help integrate campus operations efficiently and effectively; and

Whereas, strongly supported in his labors by his beloved wife, Pam, Mike Steele finds additional strength in the encouragement of his two fine daughters and four delightful grandchildren; and

Whereas, the Senate, profoundly grateful for Mike Steele’s many years of faithfulness in serving the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in commending him for his contributions to higher education in this great State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Lieutenant General William Michael Steele, USA (Retired), for his six years of dedicated and outstanding service on The Citadel Board of Visitors and, upon the occasion of his retirement from the board, wish him much happiness and fulfillment in the years ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Lieutenant General William Michael Steele.

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