**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR CHIEF ROBERT BROWN, SR., FOR HIS ALMOST SIXTY YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE GLENDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO SELFLESSLY SERVING AND PROTECTING HIS COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the Senate of South Carolina deem it absolutely fitting to pause in their deliberations to honor a man who has dedicated a lifetime to serving his community and protecting its citizens; and

Whereas, Robert Brown, Sr., was born on October 13, 1936, to Jeanette and Ellis Brown. The middle of seven siblings, Robert attended and graduated from Pacolet High School. While there, he played basketball, making the all‑conference team in his senior year; and

Whereas, while working as a bus driver for district three, he met Elizabeth Ann Bailey, the woman who was to become his wife on September 3, 1960. Together, they had three cherished sons, Ricky, Robert, Jr., and Larry in 1961, 1963, and 1966, respectively; and

Whereas, on April 20, 1959, Chief Brown joined the Glendale Fire Department. He was elevated to the role of chief on February 26, 1976, and served in this capacity for over forty years; and

Whereas, under Chief Brown’s leadership, the department evolved from an all‑volunteer department to having nine full‑time personnel, providing three men on each shift twenty‑four hours a day, seven days a week. The department has grown from one station with two bays and four trucks to two stations with eight bays and nine trucks, including a ladder truck, an all‑terrain vehicle, and swift water and flood rescue equipment. The second station was built on land that Chief Brown donated himself; and

Whereas, during his tenure, the ISO rating for the department dropped from nine to its current rate of five. He has also been able to save taxpayer money by performing maintenance and necessary repairs on their equipment in his own shop; and

Whereas, Robert stepped down from the role of chief after almost forty‑two years on June 13, 2017, but continues to serve as a firefighter with “plenty more good years of firefighting left”; and

Whereas, Robert’s three sons and two grandsons have followed in his footsteps, carrying on the legacy of serving the fire department. Together they have a collective one hundred ninety‑five years of volunteer service for the Glendale Fire Department. Robert Brown, Jr., is one of two assistant fire chiefs and is currently assisting with chief duties; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate are grateful for the legacy of service to the safety and security of the members of the Glendale community which Chief Robert Brown, Sr., has established and wish him much continued happiness in his life. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor Chief Robert Brown, Sr., for his almost sixty years of service with the Glendale Fire Department and express gratitude for his commitment to selflessly serving and protecting his community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Chief Robert Brown, Sr.

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