**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE DAVE SPENCE UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD AND TO COMMEND MR. SPENCE AND THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE TO SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE SOUTHEAST.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize Dave Spence upon the occasion of his retirement; and

Whereas, Mr. Spence began his career with the Southern Regional Education Board in 1976 and has served as president, vice president in charge of educational policies, and research associate for higher education issues; and

Whereas, under Mr. Spence’s leadership, the Southern Regional Education Board has focused on college and career readiness and postsecondary completion, and its efforts have resulted in policies and actions to adopt higher standards, assess students’ progress toward meeting these standards, and offer readiness courses; and

Whereas, during Mr. Spence’s tenure with the Southern Regional Education Board, he has organized special commissions, bringing together policymakers and education leaders to solve some of education’s most intractable challenges; and

Whereas, Mr. Spence also offered support and testimony to legislatures in the sixteen Southern Regional Education Board member states as they debated improvements to education, and he worked to ensure that the needs of these member states were met; and

Whereas, an innovative leader, Mr. Spence led the Southern Regional Education Board through a period of rapid growth in grant funding and services to states, schools, and universities; and

Whereas, Mr. Spence’s determination that all students in every state have access to a quality education has improved education for students across the South and guided states to new heights; and

Whereas, a leader in his field broadly, Mr. Spence has also served as executive director of the Florida Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, executive vice chancellor for the University System of Georgia, executive vice chancellor and vice chancellor for academic programs at the State University System of Florida, and executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer of the California State University System; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the diligence and commitment that Dave Spence and the Southern Regional Education Board have shown in serving the people and the State of South Carolina. The members take immense pleasure in wishing Mr. Spence well as he enters retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Dave Spence upon the occasion of his retirement as president of the Southern Regional Education Board and commend Mr. Spence and the Southern Regional Education Board for their many years of dedicated public service to South Carolina and the Southeast.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dave Spence.

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