**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE ACCLAIMED SOUTH CAROLINA ARTIST MAJOR ROBERT “BOB” WINDSOR WILSON, SR., RETIRED USAF/USAAC FOR HIS ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA THROUGH HIS PAINTINGS OF HISTORICAL EVENTS, ALLOWING US TO VISUALLY REMEMBER THE SACRIFICES AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR STATE AND NATION.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize that Robert Wilson’s works, which bring to life some of the towering heroes and figures of the American Revolution and other historical moments, are a special legacy bestowed upon the people of South Carolina; and

Whereas, a retired Air Force pilot and Silver Star recipient who served in World War II and the Korean Conflict, Major Robert Wilson was recognized for more than his military acumen during his service. Although Wilson never received formal artistic training, he taught on‑base art classes for the community for three years at the order of a commanding officer who admired his work; and

Whereas, Wilson pursued an artistic career upon retiring from the military. He settled near Woodruff, South Carolina in 1963, achieving the position as top designer at Cryovac, in Duncan. Wilson became a full-time artist after his retirement; and

Whereas, Wilson’s first series of paintings on the crucifixion of Christ won wide acclaim throughout South Carolina and was exhibited at the 1978 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C., receiving recognition from President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter; and

Whereas, Wilson researched extensively to accurately portray historical events in his paintings. During the Bicentennial year, Wilson completed several paintings for a Revolutionary War series. His battle paintings and portraits of leaders have won him recognition as the Bicentennial Artist of South Carolina; and

Whereas, his series continue to unfold, focusing on the Civil War, aviation, and NASCAR, alongside hundreds of portraits of famous and prominent South Carolina majors and leaders in local communities; and

Whereas, Wilson has donated multiple paintings to locations across the State and nation, including Kings Mountain Military Park, South Carolina State House, South Carolina State Museum, Ninety Six Mile National Park, Berkeley Museum, US Congressional Building, Converse College, and Amelia Earhart Museum; and

Whereas, Wilson strives to show the personal element of war through the expression of a single dying soldier or a fallen horse. His works capture the shock and reality of the bitter struggle, the selfless sacrifice, and the agony even in triumph that founded our great nation; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the pride and recognition that Major Robert Windsor Wilson has brought to his state and nation and wish him continued success in his future endeavors. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize Major Robert Windsor Wilson for preserving South Carolina history in detailed paintings, allowing us to visually remember the sacrifices and contributions of our State and nation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Major Robert Windsor Wilson.

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