**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LENARD MCKELVEY, AN AMERICAN RADIO PRESENTER AND TELEVISION PERSONALITY, AND TO WELCOME HIM AS HE RETURNS TO HIS NATIVE SOUTH CAROLINA TO BE THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR THE THIRD COLUMBIA CAREER CONNECT CONFERENCE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Lenard McKelvey, known professionally as Charlamagne tha God, will be the keynote speaker at the second annual Columbia Career Connect conference on April 8, 2017; and

Whereas, born June 29, 1980, he is originally from Moncks Corner and began his career as a radio intern in the Palmetto State. His radio show “Concrete Jungle” on WHXT‑FM Hot 103.9 in Columbia enabled listeners to sample his candid, unfiltered wit; and

Whereas, alongside radio host and media personality Wendy Williams, Mr. McKelvey became second mic on the *The Wendy Williams Experience*, where his unorthodox and upfront questioning of Hip Hop/R&B artists on the radio raised his public profile; and

Whereas, today he is a co‑host of the nationally syndicated iHeartRadio program *The Breakfast Club*, and he is a featured television personality on MTV and MTV2. As a social media influencer and executive producer of *CthaGod World, LLC*, he wears many hats in entertainment and philanthropic arenas; and

Whereas, Charlamagne is also the co‑host of the popular podcast *Brilliant Idiots*, author of his own *Marvel* comic, and star of the MTV2 show *Uncommon Sense Live*. He has been featured on other MTV and MTV2 shows, including *Guy Code*, *Guy Court*, *Girl Code*, and VJ for the *Week in Jams*; and

Whereas, an advocate for and philanthropist in his home State, he organizes annual back‑to‑school events as well as Thanksgiving and Christmas food giveaways through his non‑profit, THIRD EYE Awareness, assisting more than five hundred families at each event giving away everything from haircuts and food to manicures and health exams; and

Whereas, passionate about helping children get ready for school and helping adults find their way through life, Mr. McKelvey recalls his growing up on a dirt road in South Carolina as the cornerstone of his optimism and work ethic; and

Whereas, he encourages young people to rise above the limitations of their own dirt roads by working hard, staying in school, following their dreams, and never, never giving up; and

Whereas, as one of today’s most unique and compelling media personalities driving the national conversation about issues related to hip‑hop, race, society, and politics, Mr. McKelvey clearly ascribes his success to South Carolina in his first book, *Black Privilege: Opportunity Comes to Those Who Create It*, set to be released on April 18, 2017, and already available for pre‑order; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is pleased to welcome Lenard McKelvey home to South Carolina as he addresses the #C3Conference, and the members congratulate him on his many significant accomplishments and his outstanding success. 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 honor Lenard McKelvey, an American radio presenter and television personality, and welcome him as he returns to his native South Carolina to be the keynote speaker for the second Columbia Career Connect conference.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Lenard McKelvey.

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