**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE ROGER SMITH UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize Roger Smith, who served as the executive director of the South Carolina Education Association from April 2010 through December 2016, retiring January 1, 2017. The SCEA is recognized as one of the strongest advocates for quality public schools, students, teachers, and education support professionals in South Carolina; and

Whereas, Roger Smith was born and raised in Ritchie County, West Virginia. In 1975, he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in secondary education and a major in social studies from Glenville State College, which is recognized for its teacher training and education programs; and

Whereas, prior to his time at the SCEA, Roger was a public school teacher for eleven years in Ritchie County, West Virginia. Roger served as the President of the Ritchie County Education Association from 1982 to 1987; and

Whereas, Roger served as a public school advocate for the SCEA for over twenty-five years. As executive director, Roger led the association in restructuring staff and overhauling its advocacy, political, and legislative programs. He is known for his tenacious advocacy for children, teachers, school employees, and quality public schools; and

Whereas, Roger and his wife Nancy are residents of Gaston, South Carolina, where they have lived since moving to the State in 1987. They are the parents of two children, Amanda and Ryan, who attended and graduated from Lexington 2 schools and Clemson University. Roger and Nancy also have two grandchildren, Aubree and Ashlee; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate Roger Smith’s long and enduring service to the residents of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor and recognize Roger Smith upon the occasion of his retirement as executive director of the South Carolina Education Association and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Roger Smith.

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