**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE WAYNE MURPHY, OWNER OF HAVENCONNECTIONS LLC DBA CHICK‑FIL‑A IN ORANGEBURG, FOR BEING NAMED THE 2017 SOUTH CAROLINA VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to recognize Wayne Murphy, an Orangeburg restaurant owner, for being honored as the 2017 South Carolina Veteran Small Business Person of the Year by the South Carolina Small Business Administration District Office, a subsidiary of the United States Business Administration; and

Whereas, a St. Matthews native, he earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing and received a commission through the United States Army ROTC at South Carolina State University. He earned a master’s degree in acquisition and contract management from the Florida Institute of Technology; and

Whereas, during over two decades in the Army, Mr. Murphy served several tours in Afghanistan, Turkey, and northern Iraq and in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology at the Pentagon in Washington, D. C., and garnered many awards and medals, including the Bronze Star, the National Defense Service, the Afghanistan and Iraq Commendation, and the Humanitarian Service medals; and

Whereas, as a highly decorated military officer serving what he considers the greatest county on earth, he learned that service is at the heart of what he strives to do, a philosophy of servant leadership which is now at the heart of his business; and

Whereas, after retiring from the military, Mr. Murphy worked at Lockheed Martin in Marietta, Georgia, as the business manager for the C‑5 Aircraft Program; and

Whereas, more than half of Americans either own or work for small businesses, enterprises that create about two of every three new jobs in the nation each year. Mr. Murphy’s Chick‑fil‑A, which currently employs ninety‑seven, received technical business assistance during its start‑up phase from the Service Corps of Retired Executives and the Small Business Development Center; and

Whereas, in 2014, he and his wife, Trina, were named the Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce Small Business Person of the Year, sponsored annually by First Citizens Bank, and United States Senator Tim Scott recognized them for the achievement; and

Whereas, *Times and Democrat* recognized Orangeburg Chick‑fil‑A, a sponsor for South Carolina State and Claflin universities, as the “Best of the Best” place for chicken in 2015 and 2016; and

Whereas, the business has given back to the community by awarding scholarships to five employees pursuing higher education, and by partnering with the county Chamber of Commerce and Orangeburg‑Calhoun Technical College (OCtech) in designing a program for customer service; and

Whereas, crediting his business success to God’s favor and to the support of his friends and co‑workers, Mr. Murphy realizes that the most important resource is the people he serves who have supported his enterprise with their business; and

Whereas, dedicated to his community, he has participated in such local organizations as the Regional Medical Center Foundation and Pink Ribbon Committee, Orangeburg Christian Academy, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Child Evangelism Fellowship, Morning Rotary, and the OCtech Foundation; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the entrepreneurial spirit that Wayne Murphy has used to benefit his community, and the members look to hear of his continued success in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Wayne Murphy, owner of HavenConnections LLC DBA Chick‑fil‑A in Orangeburg, for being named the 2017 South Carolina Veteran Small Business Person of the Year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Wayne Murphy.

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