**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE INTERCHANGE LOCATED AT EXIT 197 ALONG INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 26 IN BERKELEY COUNTY “COLONEL CHRISTOPHER N. WILLIAMSON INTERCHANGE” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS LOCATION CONTAINING THIS DESIGNATION.

Whereas, Colonel Christopher N. Williamson, a native of Darlington, attended Rosenwald High School in Society Hill where he excelled in academics and athletics. It was his athletic prowess that earned him a track scholarship to Fayetteville State University, where he eared a bachelor’s degree in 1985. Upon graduation, he returned home and began a career in law enforcement with the South Carolina Department of Corrections, followed by a stint with the Darlington County Sheriff’s Department; and

Whereas, in 1988 he joined the South Carolina Highway Patrol, completing the Highway Patrol Academy in May of that year. Through hard work and dedicated service to the people of this great State, he was promoted to the rank of Corporal in 1998, Lieutenant in 2001, Captain in 2003, Lieutenant Colonel in 2011, and he served as Deputy Commander of the South Carolina Highway Patrol; and

Whereas, on June 30, 2017, Williamson was bestowed the honor of being named Commander of the South Carolina Highway Patrol, becoming the first African‑American commander to lead this law enforcement agency; and

Whereas, during his storied law enforcement career, he earned a master’s degree in Clinical and Behavioral Counseling from Webster University. He went on to found Williamson Forward Progress Youth Services Foundation, a non‑profit organization that provides services to youths and their families that include mentoring, discipline, behavioral intervention, and anger management, among others; and

Whereas, he is married to Deloris Williamson and together they are the proud parents of two daughters, Krissy and Daysha. They also have two granddaughters, Kristina and Kailyn. A strong believer in serving his community, he is a member of numerous organizations and serves on several boards statewide; and

Whereas, it would be fitting and proper to recognize this son of South Carolina for his lifelong commitment to serving and protecting the citizens of this State by having a highway interchange named in his honor. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly request the Department of Transportation name the interchange located at Exit 197 along Interstate Highway 26 in Berkeley County “Colonel Christopher N. Williamson Interchange” and erect appropriate markers or signs at this location containing this designation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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