**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND SALUTE THE HONORABLE LONNIE HOSEY, A GENUINE AMERICAN PATRIOT AND SOUTH CAROLINA STATESMAN, AND TO HONOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE WITH THE FIRST MARINE DIVISION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR AND HIS SERVICE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives have learned that their friend and colleague in the General Assembly, the Honorable Lonnie Hosey, will be honored by the Black History Month Symposium for a lifetime of distinguished service to our State and to the nation during a program entitled “From Barnwell County to the Statehouse” aboard the USS Yorktown at Patriot’s Point in Mount Pleasant on Friday, February 23, 2018; and

Whereas, a native of South Carolina, young Lonnie Hosey joined the United States Marine Corps in the proud tradition of sons of the Palmetto State in June of 1966, and he served with the First Marine Division in Vietnam in 1966 and 1967, under unrelenting combat; and

Whereas, wounded twice in Vietnam, he was awarded a Purple Heart for his extraordinary service. As a result of serious bullet and shrapnel wounds, Sergeant Hosey spent thirteen months in the Charleston Naval Hospital before being honorably discharged from the Marine Corps in 1969; and

Whereas, after serving in the Vietnam War, Mr. Hosey earned a bachelor’s degree from Voorhees College in 1978 and served for decades in higher education before he retired as a university administrator; and

Whereas, he has continued to serve veterans as a board member of the Salkehatchie Vietnam Veterans and as a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 10595 and Disabled American Veterans; and

Whereas, Representative Hosey was elected to serve in the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1999 where he serves as a member of the Ways and Means Committee, and he has faithfully represented District 91 in Allendale, Barnwell, and Orangeburg counties for almost two decades; and

Whereas, devoted to his community, he has served as chairman of both the Barnwell County Community Activities Center, Inc., and the Barnwell County Democratic Party, and he has been a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., of the Barnwell‑Blackville Branch of the NAACP, and of the Community Service Club of Williston, Inc., in 1994; and

Whereas, a faithful member of St. Thomas Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Representative Hosey has served as president of Greenbranch Christian Benevolent Society and past Most Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons of the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, growing up during a time of Civil Rights’ struggles, Lonnie Hosey has overcome many challenges in order to spend his life giving back to his nation, his State, and his community; and we, his colleagues, have been enriched by his sincere collegiality and dedicated service in the General Assembly. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution recognize and salute the Honorable Lonnie Hosey, a genuine American patriot and South Carolina statesman, and honor his distinguished service with the First Marine Division during the Vietnam War and his service in the House of Representatives.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable Lonnie Hosey.

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