**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR BRIAN MCCORMACK, A VETERAN TEACHER, COACH, AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AT RIDGE SPRING‑MONETTA HIGH SCHOOL, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY‑FIVE YEARS OF DEDICATED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to Brian McCormack for his significant contributions to education in the Palmetto State and for his meaningful impact on the lives of students at Ridge Spring‑Monetta High School (RSM); and

Whereas, born in Fostoria, Ohio, on May 2, 1961, Brian McCormack attended Hopewell‑Louden schools, and he actively participated in all school sports, the band, and chorus; and

Whereas, he earned a bachelor’s degree in 1983 from Bowling Green State University where he was active in intramural sports and worked as a disc jockey at the University’s radio station; and

Whereas, after graduation, Coach McCormack was hired by RSM High to teach history and coach a variety of sports, including football, basketball, and baseball; and

Whereas, within five years of joining the faculty at RSM, he was in a tragic car accident in February of 1988, which paralyzed him from the chest down, and he spent several months in the hospital and recuperating at HealthSouth; and

Whereas, the following August, Coach McCormack returned to school, undeterred, and continued to teach history and eventually resumed coaching sports again; and

Whereas, when the school’s athletic director, Buford McGee, died in another tragic accident, Brian McCormack insisted on interviewing for the job because he felt he owed it to his friend and colleague to carry on the ideas and dreams that Coach McGee had instilled in his athletes; and

Whereas, in 2000, Coach McCormack started the first golf team at RSM High, which he has continued to coach, and even after his retirement, he anticipates that he will continue to coach golf and substitute teach so that he can remain connected to South Carolina’s educational system and its students; and

Whereas, Coach McCormack could have left teaching on disability after his accident, but he declined because he knew he could make a difference in the lives of students. While he has a disability, he does not consider himself disabled; and

Whereas, although he is known as a tough, disciplined teacher, Coach McCormack is a role model and is recognized by the students as the most respected teacher on campus; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the years of unparalleled dedication and inspiration that Brian McCormack has devoted to education and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑earned retirement. 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 honor Brian McCormack, a veteran teacher, coach, and athletic director at Ridge Spring‑Monetta High School, upon the occasion of his retirement after thirty‑five years of dedicated and exemplary service, 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 Coach Brian McCormack.

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