**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MR. AND MRS. LAWRENCE ERWIN “LARRY” SLADE OF KERSHAW COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR MANY MORE YEARS OF BLESSINGS AND FULFILLMENT.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Larry Slade will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary on May 11, 2018; and

Whereas, in 1968 in the month of May when tulips spread their colorful blooms abroad, Larry Slade and Betty Horton pledged to one another a lifetime of love and sharing as they were joined in holy matrimony at First Baptist Church of Camden; and

Whereas, shortly after their wedding, Larry deployed with his military unit in support of the Vietnam War in August 1968. When he returned home, the couple engaged in local agriculture and forestry through the family tree farm, cattle, and hay fields; and

Whereas, together they reared two fine children, Robert Horton Slade and Laurie Slade Funderburk, our friend and esteemed colleague in the General Assembly. Their children blessed them with the keen affection of four grandchildren: Robert and his wife, Elizabeth, provided two grandsons, Jonathan and Matthew; and Laurie and her husband, Harold Williams Funderburk, Jr., provided two boys as well, Slade and Burch; and

Whereas, Mrs. Slade, known to all for her enthusiastic zest for life and boundless energy, so personable and full of joy, was a standout high school basketball player and served the City of Camden as city clerk for almost three decades. She is president of the Kershaw County Forest Landowners Association and treasurer of the Kershaw County Farmers Market; and

Whereas, complimenting her zest for life, Mr. Slade has a thirst for knowledge and a practical self‑reliance, served well by his inquisitive nature and attention to detail that have equipped him to solve life’s problems; and

Whereas, a licensed Ham Radio operator, Mr. Slade serves on the board of the Kershaw County Young Farmers Association and as a mentor for the Kershaw County Robotics Team. He continues to show his dedication to his country and his community through active membership in American Legion Post 17 and Roberts‑Dixon Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5921 and by volunteering for the Disabled American Veterans program; and

Whereas, Robert and Laurie worked on the farm from a young age: hoeing the garden, picking and shelling peas, and looking after the cows. Their parents instilled the love of country into them, along with the love of farming and the importance of faith, hard work, and giving back. The family has always been deeply devoted to and actively engaged in church; and

Whereas, both children have sincerely appreciated the value that their parents placed on education in their formative years and the strong sense of duty to the community that they imparted through their example; and

Whereas, the sounds and joy of music always filled their home and lives, and these parents imparted that love to their children. Mr. Slade plays bass clarinet in the Camden Community Concert Band; their son is a concert trombonist; and Mrs. Slade plays piano for the Men’s Quartet at First Baptist Church of Camden, as well as being involved in the handbell choir and volunteering to play and sing hymns at local nursing homes; and

Whereas, no success on earth crowns a life as does a marriage that endures the test of time and grows stronger every passing year; and

Whereas, Mr. Slade has learned the veracity of the proverb, “Whoso finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor of the Lord,” and he now considers one of his crowning achievements as having had the good sense to marry his beloved Betty; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to honor this son and daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary and joins with family and friends as they reach this remarkable half‑century milestone. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Erwin “Larry” Slade of Kershaw County on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary and extend best wishes for many more years of blessings and fulfillment.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Erwin “Larry” Slade.

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