**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE MAJORS DAVID AND AMBER PHELPS OF THE SALVATION ARMY FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF AIKEN COUNTY, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM ON THEIR NEW POSITIONS WITH THE SALVATION ARMY’S MINISTRY IN ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives has learned that Majors David and Amber Phelps, officers and leaders of the Salvation Army in Aiken since June 2014, soon will leave their present ministry to begin work with the Salvation Army’s branch in Rocky Mount, North Carolina; and

Whereas, these Mississippi natives have considerable experience as officers with the Salvation Army, Major David Phelps having served for seventeen years and Major Amber Phelps for nearly sixteen years. Together, they have worked to build and strengthen the Aiken Corps and its programs. Specifically, they improved the financial health of the Aiken program through expanding individual fundraising and they also wisely recognized the need to close one of the three stores in the area, which resulted in a vast improvement in the operation of the two remaining stores and the generation of income; and

Whereas, the Phelpses also started the Kettle Partnership Program while in Aiken, whereby local businesses had the opportunity to advertise themselves and support the Army through sponsoring individual kettle locations in the Aiken area during the Christmas season. Thanks to the Phelpses, the financial status of the Aiken Salvation Army is positive and strong overall; and

Whereas, Amber, who was promoted to major while serving in Aiken, is most appreciated for her continuing development of the Army’s senior programs in Aiken, and she intends to take her ideas and the programs she developed to Rocky Mount. She is also noted for her commitment to the youth programs the Army supports in Aiken, especially her efforts to improve the Boys and Girls Club programs, which at present are moving forward full steam. In addition, she dedicates herself to the Christmas program and toy giveaway, for which she has greatly increased the number of participating volunteers and gifts for area children; and

Whereas, David started a Salvation Army Awareness Walk during National Salvation Army Week. This five‑mile trek, which he did alone for the first time in 2017, began at the Salvation Army headquarters in Aiken’s Northside and concluded at Aiken Mall. He accomplished the trek in full uniform in the presummer heat, carrying the “Blood and Fire” flag of the Army. For his efforts, he received national recognition by the Army and others and set the stage for the 2018 walk. The hope is that Aiken’s walk will be imitated nationwide to display participants’ support of all the good that the Army does for so many; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives, grateful for the consistent commitment and excellence David and Amber Phelps have demonstrated in their work, takes great pleasure in wishing them well as they enter a new field of ministry in Rocky Mount, and the members trust that God will bless them abundantly there, just as He has in Aiken. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize Majors David and Amber Phelps of the Salvation Army for their outstanding service to the citizens of Aiken County, and congratulate them on their new positions with the Salvation Army’s ministry in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to David and Amber Phelps.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑