**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JOHN H. RICKENBACKER FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED COMMUNITY SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES AS HE CONTINUES TO SERVE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina Senate recognizes those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great state’s citizenry. Having spent his life working to enhance the lives of others, John H. Rickenbacker of Orangeburg County exemplifies such South Carolinians; and

Whereas, a humanitarian, administrator, and elected official, Mr. Rickenbacker holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from South Carolina State University and has done further study at the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, his professional career included a variety of affiliations, including Felton Laboratory School, South Carolina State University (teacher); American Bankers Life Assurance Company in Florida (insurance agent); Family Health Centers of Orangeburg (community coordinator); a community health center in Richland County (executive director); the Office of Lieutenant Governor Michael Daniel (administrative assistant); Orangeburg School District 5 (assistant principal); Orangeburg Calhoun Tech Prep Consortium (executive director); Orangeburg County Adult Education Program (director); and the Office of Congressman James Clyburn (constituent services supervisor); and

Whereas, Mr. Rickenbacker served as a member of Orangeburg County Council for more than twenty years and as chairman of the council for ten years. Under his leadership, many great things were accomplished in the area of economic development in Orangeburg County; and

Whereas, because he believes strongly in active participation in the community, John Rickenbacker long has been involved in many community organizations. His convictions have led him to serve as a member of various boards, including the South Carolina Bankers Trust Advisory Board, Orangeburg Calhoun Allendale Bamberg Community Action Agency Board, and Regional Medical Center of Orangeburg and Calhoun County Trustee Board. He also has served as president of the Orangeburg Branch of the NAACP and of the Orangeburg County Young Democrats, and he is a member of New Mt. Zion Baptist Church, where he served as a trustee; and

Whereas, among his many awards and honors are the Order of the Palmetto, bestowed on him by Governor Dick Riley; Leadership of South Carolina Achievement Award; Orangeburg Ministerial Alliance Humanitarian Award; Dr. Martin Luther King Community Service Award, given by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Achievement Award; South Carolina State University Distinguished Alumni Award; Claflin University Presidential Citation Award; and Orangeburg County Business Partnership Award. In addition, he was named Rural Leader of the Year by Governor Jim Hodges and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Citizen of the Year; and

Whereas, John Rickenbacker and his lovely wife, the former Hazel Armstrong of Winnsboro, are the proud parents of three adult sons; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate recognize that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like John Rickenbacker who use their talents and resources to serve others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor John H. Rickenbacker for his many years of dedicated community service to the people of Orangeburg County and extend best wishes as he continues to serve in the years ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to John H. Rickenbacker.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑