**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND RECOGNIZE HAROLD BROWN, CHIEF OF THE ELGIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER TWENTY‑SEVEN YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE, AND TO HONOR HIS DEDICATION TO PROTECTING THE CITIZENS OF THE ELGIN COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly have learned that on October 9, 2020, Police Chief Harold Brown will begin a well‑deserved retirement as a premier law enforcement officer, the last twenty‑seven of which have been as a distinguished and highly‑regarded chief of the Elgin Police Department; and

Whereas, Chief Brown began his prodigious career in public service in 1973 with the South Carolina Forestry Commission, where he worked for ten years; and

Whereas, his successful and decorated career in law enforcement began with his hiring by the Kershaw County Sheriff’s department in 1983; and

Whereas, Chief Brown was promoted to sergeant in 1987 and again to lieutenant in 1992 before he was hired to serve as the chief of police for the Town of Elgin in 1993; and

Whereas, during his time with the sheriff’s office, he received two Letters of Commendation for his exceptional service to his community. First, in 1989 for assisting in the investigation of a brutal beating and sexual assault of a teenager. The investigation resulted in the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator who received the longest prison sentence ever given in Kershaw County for an offense other than murder. In 1993, his work was recognized when he spent over three and a half hours in freezing weather convincing an armed suicidal individual to relinquish his weapon and seek help, saving a life; and

Whereas, when Chief Brown joined the Elgin Police Department, the town boasted a population of six hundred fifty, and the department had one officer and one vehicle. Today the population of Elgin is one thousand six hundred twenty‑seven, and the department employs seven officers, a K-9 unit, and a constable; and

Whereas, his extensive education in law enforcement includes a wide gamut of certifications as recent as early 2020; and

Whereas, Chief Brown has written and procured numerous grants for the department, including funds to hire the department’s second officer and the first resource officer in the Elgin Schools, and funds for the town’s first computer and for bulletproof vests; and

Whereas, under his leadership, the Elgin Police Department has worked to provide a safe environment where citizens can live, work, and play, as free from crime as is humanly possible; and

Whereas, dedicated to his community, Chief Brown has served as a leader in the Boy Scouts of America. He has also been involved in the leadership of the town’s Catfish Stomp since it began, the profits from which support the department’s Toys Roundup and Caring Hands Foundation, an organization he helped to establish; and

Whereas, grateful for his many years of distinguished service to the City of Elgin, the South Carolina General Assembly takes great pleasure in extending best wishes to Harold Brown as he transitions to a richly deserved retirement and wish him many years of enjoyment. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate and recognize Harold Brown, Chief of the Elgin Police Department, upon the occasion of his retirement after years of exemplary service, and honor his dedication to protecting the citizens of the Elgin community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Chief Harold Brown.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑