**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR BENNIE MCMURRAY FOR HIS THIRTY‑EIGHT YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS A COACH IN THE PALMETTO STATE, PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BECOME PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES, AND TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR HIS ROLE IN PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE THEIR PLACES AS PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to acknowledge the significant contributions that Bennie McMurray has made to the development of young people in the Palmetto State throughout his outstanding career as a coach; and

Whereas, after graduating from Barr Street High School in 1967, Bennie McMurray entered South Carolina State University where he earned a bachelor of science degree in 1971, he later earned a master’s degree in education in 1979 and a Masters Plus 30 in 1995, both from the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, Mr. McMurray began his career in 1975 at Buford High School in Lancaster. He later moved to Lewisville High School where he spent 18 years teaching biology and physical science while also serving as head football and head baseball coach. He was honored as Teacher of the Year in 1982 and 1989; and

Whereas, he served from 2001 to 2006 as the head football and head baseball coach at Waddell High School in a program he inaugurated and as the head football coach at Lancaster High School from 2006 to 2013; and

Whereas, in football, Mr. McMurray posted a career 219‑112 record with state championships in 1987, 1996, and 1998, and in baseball, he recorded 419 wins, 119 losses, and one tie; and

Whereas, honored as Coach of the Year sixteen times in football and eighteen times in baseball, he received the High School Sports Report Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001 and 2014, and was elected to the South Carolina Football Coaches Hall of Fame and South Carolina Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Coach McMurray also officiated for football, basketball, and baseball for the South Carolina High School League for forty years, as well as for college basketball, baseball, and softball; and

Whereas, with a strong commitment to excellence in his chosen profession, he held membership in numerous professional organizations, including the National Teachers Association, the Palmetto Teachers Association, and the South and North Carolina Coaches associations; and

Whereas, his deep concern for his community is evidenced in his service on the board of directors of several organizations; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly value the faithful example and outstanding devotion of Bennie McMurray to the young people of our great State. 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, recognize and honor Bennie McMurray for his thirty‑eight years of dedicated service as a coach in the Palmetto State, preparing young people to become professional athletes, and express gratitude for his role in preparing young people to take their places as productive citizens.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Bennie McMurray.

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