**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR WILLIAM J. REID OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY FOR HIS YEARS OF MEANINGFUL SERVICE TO THE MASONS AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR HIS RECOGNITION BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNSEL OF DELIBERATION.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that William J. Reid of Chesterfield County will be honored for his years of dedicated service to the Masons by the Deputy of Orient Alonzo Haynes, Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the South Carolina Council of Deliberation, at a celebration to be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Columbia on March 15, 2019; and

Whereas, a native of Cheraw, Mr. Reid is the oldest of three children born to Maggie E. and William J. Reid. He received formal education at Coulter Memorial Academy and Coutler Junior College in Cheraw, and Eckels College of Mortuary Science in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, in the patriotic tradition of the sons of South Carolina, he served his country with distinction in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and was honorably discharged; and

Whereas, a licensed practicing mortician, Mr. Reid owns and operates Reid’s Funeral Home, which serves Cheraw and the surrounding areas. He is a member of the National Funeral Director’s and Mortician’s Association and of the South Carolina Mortician’s Association; and

Whereas, Mr. Reid is an active member of Wesley United Methodist Church, where he serves as chairman of the Committee on Finance and previously served as chairman of the board of trustees, chairman of the Pastor­Parish Relationship Committee, and chairman of the Administrative Council. He also is a certified lay speaker of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, Mr. Reid has expressed deep devotion to his community through his service on numerous boards and commissions, including the Chesterfield County Court House Planning and Construction Board, the Chesterfield Memorial Hospital board of trustees, and the Cheraw Housing Authority; and

Whereas, a life member of the NAACP, Mr. Reid served as president of the Chesterfield County Citizen’s Committee and of the Cheraw Civic Action League, and as vice executive chairman of the Chesterfield County Democratic Party. He currently serves as vice president of the Foundry Hill Cemetery Association; and

Whereas, in 1984, Mr. Reid was elevated to 33rd Degree Mason, and his service in Masonic‑related organizations includes past Master of Sanctorum Lodge #25 Free and Accepted Masons, past Patron of Venus Chapter #51 Order of the Eastern Star, past Commander‑in‑Chief of Booker T. Washington Consistory #225 in Camden, past Illustrious Potentate Al Bahr Temple #178 Prince Hall Shriners in Camden, and past District Deputy of the Sixth Masonic District. He presently serves as Special Deputy at Large of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of South Carolina; and

Whereas, in 2000, he was appointed and served as Imperial Deputy of the Desert of South Carolina of the Prince Hall Shriners Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine (AEAONMS), a position he held for ten years; and

Whereas, Mr. Reid is the generous sponsor of the Maggie E. Reid Memorial Scholarship Fund, which has awarded over twenty‑eight thousand dollars to local, graduating high school seniors over the past several years; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the commitment of citizens of the Palmetto State like William J. Reid who dedicate themselves to service in their communities, and the members congratulate him upon receiving recognition for his service to the Masons. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor William J. Reid of Chesterfield County for his years of meaningful service to the Masons and congratulate him for his recognition by the South Carolina Counsel of Deliberation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to William J. Reid.

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