**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE APPRECIATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF ROLLING THUNDER FOR ITS PURCHASE AND DONATION TO THE HOUSE OF A POW/MIA CHAIR OF HONOR, AND TO FURTHER ACCEPT THIS WONDERFUL GIFT ON BEHALF OF ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO BE LOCATED IN A PLACE OF HONOR IN THE BLATT BUILDING TO COMMEMORATE AND HONOR THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF SOUTH CAROLINA’S AND THIS COUNTRY’S MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO WERE OR ARE PRISONERS OF WAR OR MISSING IN ACTION.

Whereas, in November, 2017, a Chair of Honor was unveiled in the United States Capitol Visitor Center’s Emancipation Hall to commemorate American servicemen and women who were or are prisoners of war or missing in action (POW/MIA). This chair is one of the original ordered in 1857 for the new House Chamber; and

Whereas, the display of this chair was authorized by Congress in legislation that became law in 2016, and directed the Architect of the Capitol to obtain an appropriate chair featuring the POW/MIA symbol and place it in a permanent location in the U. S. Capitol; and

Whereas, POW/MIA chairs are found across the United States, in sports arenas and stadiums, town halls and state capitols. The chairs are meant to represent those service members who are unable to fill them because of their sacrifices. They also remind us of the men and women who serve our country every day; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives are very grateful that the South Carolina Chapter of Rolling Thunder, a group of veterans with a record of distinguished military service, is sponsoring the purchase of a Chair of Honor for South Carolina, including being responsible for all expenses connected with the purchase; and

Whereas, this chair will be presented to the House of Representatives, which by this resolution accepts this magnificent gift on behalf of all South Carolinians; and

Whereas, the Speaker of the House, upon the recommendation of the House Military Caucus, will designate a place of honor in the Blatt Building, where this chair will be located and permanently unoccupied, to commemorate the service and sacrifice of South Carolina’s and this country’s POW/MIA military personnel. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives express their appreciation to the South Carolina Chapter of Rolling Thunder for its purchase and donation to the House of a POW/MIA Chair of Honor, and accept this wonderful gift on behalf of all South Carolinians to be located in a place of honor in the Blatt Building to commemorate and honor the service and sacrifice of South Carolina’s and this country’s military personnel who were or are prisoners of war or missing in action.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the South Carolina Chapter of Rolling Thunder.

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