**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR ELIZABETH ANN THOMASON BRICE, COFOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF CAMP JOY, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AFTER FORTY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE, AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives has learned that Ann Brice will begin a well‑deserved retirement in the summer of 2019 after years as a premier teacher of special education and forty years as the distinguished and highly‑regarded cofounder and director of Camp Joy; and

Whereas, born in Millington, Tennessee, on January 28, 1940, Ann Thomason attended Erskine College after graduating from high school and married during her sophomore year. She earned a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree from Winthrop University, both in special education; and

Whereas, together she and her beloved husband, Jim Brice, reared two fine children, Tony Brice of Columbia and Jennifer West of Belton. Their children have blessed them with the affection of six grandchildren and one great‑grandson; and

Whereas, Mrs. Brice taught special education in the Lancaster City School system for fourteen years and also taught special classes for an additional eight years in Hendersonville, North Carolina, and she retired in 2005; and

Whereas, in 1980, she cofounded Camp Joy, a Christian coed camp that serves those with special needs and gives them the opportunity to experience attending a summer camp; and

Whereas, the first session of Camp Joy served only thirteen counselors and nine campers, and now each summer the camp holds four sessions in Flat Rock, North Carolina; one in Aiken, and one in Lake Wales, Florida, serving hundreds of campers with special needs, counselors, and staff members; and

Whereas, the mission of Camp Joy is to help campers, counselors, and staff develop a Christian attitude in their lives, which will enable them to enjoy fellowship with one another in Christ; and

Whereas, the goal is for each camper to have the opportunity to participate in all activities and with each other, regardless of the mental ability of the camper, and to develop an atmosphere of teamwork and love for one another as the most important assets for a successful camping experience; and

Whereas, Mrs. Brice has served as president of the Women’s Work of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) Church, and in 2015, she received the highest honor given a woman in the ARP Church, the Julia Hardeman Rhodes Award. While teaching in Lancaster, she was honored with recognition as Teacher of the Year; and

Whereas, she was given the distinction of carrying the Olympic Torch through Flat Rock, North Carolina in 1996 in recognition of her service to people with special needs, and she has received numerous recognitions for her dedicated work with Camp Joy; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the years of unparalleled dedication that Ann Brice has devoted to Camp Joy and to encouraging the God‑given gifts of those with special needs to blossom, and the members wish her many years of enjoyment in her well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Elizabeth Ann Thomason Brice, cofounder and director of Camp Joy, upon the occasion of her retirement after forty years of outstanding service, and wish her continued success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Elizabeth Ann Thomason Brice.

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