**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR WILLIAM BOWMAN, JR., UNITED STATES PROBATION OFFICER, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER TWENTY‑THREE YEARS OF MEANINGFUL SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives has learned that William Bowman, Jr., will begin a well‑deserved retirement after twenty‑three years as a highly‑regarded probation officer with the United States Probation Office; and

Whereas, a lifelong resident of Irmo, William Bowman graduated from Irmo High School in 1980 and earned a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Benedict College in Columbia in 1984; and

Whereas, he began a career in criminal justice as a probation officer in Lexington County with the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services shortly after graduation from college and was promoted within the department to a parole examiner for the Wateree River Correctional Institution; and

Whereas, in 1996, Mr. Bowman was sworn in as a United States probation officer by the late Honorable Matthew J. Perry, Sr., United States District Judge, and in that position, he helped to develop workshops for federal offenders in the district’s Re‑entry Program, including entrepreneurship, financial planning and budgeting, home owning, and job readiness, and seminars specifically designed for women; and

Whereas, in order to assist offenders in need of proper work attire, he helped to implement the United States Probation Clothing Closet, and to conduct re‑entry workshops at the Edgefield Federal Correctional Institution; and

Whereas, a member of several professional organizations, Mr. Bowman has taken personal time to represent the United States Probation Office at a variety of career fairs for local high schools and colleges. His exemplary work has been honored with the Tommy Whiteside Award and the South Carolina Probation and Parole Association’s Distinguished Service Award; and

Whereas, dedicated to serving his community, he has volunteered with the Lexington County Board of Voter Registration and Elections for thirty years and is a poll manager chairman. He also served as assistant leader for Troop 74‑Brookland Baptist Church of the Boy Scouts of America and continues to serve as an advisor. In 2010, he co‑founded the Young Men’s Oratorical Contest which awards monetary scholarships to winners, as well as all participants; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, Sheral Bowman, he reared a fine son, William III, and in his retirement, Mr. Bowman has pledged to maintain his commitment to service, to his family, and to building generations to come; and

Whereas, grateful for his many years of dedicated service to the United States Probation Office, the South Carolina House of Representatives takes great pleasure in extending best wishes to William Bowman as he transitions to a richly deserved retirement and the leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the State of South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor William Bowman, Jr., United States Probation Officer, upon the occasion of his retirement after twenty‑three years of meaningful service, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to William Bowman, Jr.

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