**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY CORPORAL ANDREW GILLETTE OF SUMTER COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE WHILE HE WAS IN THE LINE OF DUTY AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE PROFOUND APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL COMMUNITY AND STATE FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

Whereas, with deep appreciation, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives honor, on behalf of all South Carolinians, the great sacrifice that the men and women of the law enforcement officers make to keep our communities safe and peaceful; and

Whereas, a dedicated veteran of the United States Air Force and a devoted family man, Corporal Andrew Gillette was on Thomas Sumter Highway in Dalzell east of Shaw Air Force Base on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, when he and other deputies tried to serve a detention order and eviction notice; and

Whereas, Corporal Gillette was fatally injured in the line of duty. His tragic passing will affect the lives of many who loved and respected him; and

Whereas, coming from a long line of law enforcement officers, Corporal Gillette felt he was living his dream as part of the Sumter County Sheriff’s Office where he served honorably with keen affection and appreciation for law enforcement; and

Whereas, Corporal Gillette, who always had a smile on his face, was known for his wit, keeping his fellow deputies laughing. The Sumter County deputies say that Corporal Gillette was not just a deputy, but a brother; and

Whereas, his ability to bring humor and levity to situations positively impacted those around him who remember him not only as jolly, but dependable, knowing he would be there if ever they needed; and

Whereas, before going into law enforcement in Sumter County in 2013, he served in the United States Air Force for twelve years and was stationed at Shaw Air Force Base during his time in military service; and

Whereas, the thirty‑seven‑year old was a beloved husband and father of an eleven‑year‑old son. In addition to his deeply abiding love of his family, he was always passionate about trains. His friends recall his near obsession with trains and how he enjoyed regaling them with stories of his trips to train museums; and

Whereas, while he leaves behind his wife Marie and son John Curtis, they will take comfort in their law enforcement family and faith, holding Corporal Gillette’s memory close to their hearts forevermore; and

Whereas, because there is no greater or braver sacrifice for a man to make for his neighbors than to lay down his life, the South Carolina House of Representatives is honored to remember the life and sacrifice of a brave hero of the Palmetto State, Andrew Gillette. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Corporal Andrew Gillette of the Sumter County Sheriff’s Office while in the line of duty and express to his family the profound appreciation of a grateful community and State for his life, sacrifice, and service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Corporal Andrew Gillette.

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