**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL WAYNE CARLETON SMITH, JR., UNITED STATES ARMY (RETIRED), OF RICHLAND COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives was sad to learn of the death of Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Carleton Smith, Jr., at the age of ninety‑three on Wednesday, March 4, 2020; and

Whereas, born at Fort Benning, Georgia, on February 19, 1927, he was the son of Major General Wayne C. Smith and Mildred Little Smith, and he graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1949; and

Whereas, a member of the 11th Airborne Division, Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Smith was a Senior Parachutist, a Gliderman, a Jumpmaster, an Army Ranger, and a Sharpshooter; and

Whereas, he served his country with distinction during the Korean War from 1950 to 1953 as an Advisor to the Chief of Staff and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Korean Service Medal, and Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation for his service; and

Whereas, Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Smith served in Vietnam in 1964 as a Senior Advisor and earned the Air Medal. He served as Special Assistant to the Deputy Director, Oahu, from 1968 to 1971, receiving the Army Commendation Medal, and he was redeployed to Vietnam in 1971, for which he received the Joint Service Commendation Medal and Bronze Star Medal; and

Whereas, upon his retirement, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in 1977. Following his military service, he and his beloved wife, Elizabeth “Betty” Smith, retired to Columbia where he earned a master’s degree in public administration from the University of South Carolina and began his twenty‑year civilian career as assistant to the Richland County treasurer; and

Whereas, deeply committed to servicing others, Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Smith had been a Worshipful Master at Acacia Lodge #94 AFM. He was a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and had served as a member of the Scottish Rite Board of Directors. A member of the Columbia York Rite Bodies, he had served as its Eminent Commander, High Priest, and Illustrious Master; and

Whereas, as a member of the Knight York Cross of Honor, he was awarded the Order of the Purple Cross and had been a member of the Columbia Masonic Rosicrucians and of the Jamil Shrine Temple Past Masters Unit. He had served as a Chancellor Commander and a Grand Chancellor Commander for the Knights of Phythias; and

Whereas, Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Smith was a member of the Fort Jackson Chapter National Sojourners and the Columbia Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars. He had served as vice president of the Columbia Retired Officer Association, chairman of the board of directors for the West Point Society of Columbia, and commander of Heroes of ‘76, and he was the ROTC coordinator for the University of South Carolina and South Carolina State University and served on the South Carolina Veterans Advocacy Council; and

Whereas, a devout Episcopalian, he served as a lay reader, lay Eucharistic minister, and choir member at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church. Together he and his wife of seventy years reared two fine children, Cecily Lloyd and Wayne Smith, III, who blessed him with the affection of three grandchildren; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the life and legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Carleton Smith, Jr., and for the example of sacrifice and service he set for all who knew him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Carleton Smith, Jr., United States Army (Retired), of Richland County and extend their deepest sympathy to his loving family and his many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Carleton Smith, Jr.

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