**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF DR. JOHN W. PARLER, JR., AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Dr. John W. Parler, Jr., at the age of eighty‑eight on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, only eight days before his eighty‑ninth birthday; and

Whereas, born in Batesburg on March 18, 1931, Dr. Parler was the middle child of Mary Law Workman Parler and John Wilmot Parler, Sr., and he graduated from Batesburg‑Leesville High School in 1949, the first year there was a twelfth grade after World War II; and

Whereas, he earned a bachelor’s degree from Presbyterian College and entered the University of Louisville Dental School, one of only three from South Carolina accepted each year, before South Carolina had its own dental school; and

Whereas, Dr. Parler served his country with distinction for two years in the United States Navy at the Naval Air Station in Kingsville, Texas, which was adjacent to the King Ranch, where he acquired a passion for hunting the Texas quail; and

Whereas, upon his discharge from the Navy in 1958, he opened his dental practice in Batesburg where he practiced dentistry for forty years; and

Whereas, devoted to his profession, Dr. Parler served as member and past president of the South Carolina Dental Association, Central District Dental Society; on the South Carolina State Board of Dentistry; and as a delegate to the American Dental Association; and

Whereas he held memberships in the South Carolina Chapter of the Society of Dentistry for Children, American Society of Dentistry for Children, South Carolina Academy of Practice Administration, Midlands Study Club, Academy of General Dentistry, American College of Dentistry, American Board of Dental Examiners, and the Association of Southern Deans and Examiners; and

Whereas, Dr. Parler was deeply committed to his community as a member of the Civitan Club and past chairman of the Red Cross Bloodmobile. He was responsible for the addition of fluoride to the local water supply to protect the teeth of children; and

Whereas, a lifelong member of St John’s United Methodist Church, he served on the church’s administrative board and as a trustee, and he taught Sunday school. In later years, he enjoyed being a part of the Celebration Church family; and

Whereas, Dr. Parler’s love of the hunt took him throughout his life to destinations across the United States, Scotland, Europe, and South America in search of game birds. Along with hunting, he enjoyed his hunting dogs, fishing with his fishing buddies, boating, cattle farming, and forest management; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife of sixty‑one years, Ann Miller Parler, he reared two fine children, John W. “Bill” Parler III and Robin Parler Taylor. His children blessed him with the affection of three adoring grandchildren: Dustin Parler, Britt Taylor, and Cloe Taylor; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the life and legacy of John Parler and for the example of service and kindness 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 Dr. John W. Parler, Jr., 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 Dr. John W. Parler, Jr.

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