**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND COMMEND JOHN MILTON “JAKE” KNOTTS, JR., FOR YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO WISH HIM MUCH CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives wish to pause in their deliberations to honor a lifetime of distinguished service Mr. Knotts afforded the South Carolina Legislature; and

Whereas, Mr. Knotts was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1995, where he served with distinction on numerous committees. His work ethic and attention to the public earned him the honor of being named Freshman Legislator of the year in 1996; and

Whereas, in 2002, a special election was held to fill a vacant seat in the South Carolina Senate. Mr. Knotts gained the position of Senator. In this role, he served on the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee; Fish, Game, and Forestry Committee; Judiciary Committee; Rules Committee; the Public Safety Coordinating Council, and as Chairman of the Invitations Committee to name a few; and

Whereas, during his tenure as the Senator for District 23, Lexington County, Mr. Knotts earned numerous awards and honors some of which include being named the South Carolina Sheriff’s Association Legislator of the Year, 2002; South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association, Legislator of the Year, 2002; South Carolina Solicitors Association, Legislator of the Year, 2006; Friend of the Taxpayer, 2006; Outstanding Service to Victims of Crime, Legislator of the Year Award, 2006; South Carolina Dental Hygiene Association, Legislator of the Year Award, 2006; S.C. Fraternal Order of Police, Senator of the Year Award, 2006; Golden Advocate Award by the Solicitors Association, 2007; S.C. Chiropractic Association, Legislator of the Year, 2007; S.C. Crime Victims Award, 1995, 1996, 1997, 2007; S.C. Coroner’s Association, Legislator of the Year, 2008; Injured Workers’ Advocates’ “Friend of the Little Man” Award, 2008; Support & Leadership Award for Excellence in Education, S.C. Association of School Administrators; and S.C. EMS Association, Legislator of the Year, 2008‑2009; and

Whereas, Mr. Knotts retired from a career in law enforcement prior to his election to the legislature, where he served in a variety of roles from beat cop to Deputy Coroner of Lexington County; and

Whereas, with an unparalleled history of public service, Mr. Knotts’ time serving the community, currently as a member of the board at Midlands Technical College, as a veteran of the Vietnam War, a former law enforcement officer, and a former member of the South Carolina General Assembly has resulted in a lifetime of hard work and dedication on the behalf of the citizens of this State and nation; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the legacy Mr. Knotts established and wish him the greatest joy in all his future endeavors. 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 commend John Milton “Jake” Knotts, Jr., for years of distinguished service in the State of South Carolina and wish him much continued success and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to John Milton “Jake” Knotts, Jr.

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