**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE HONORABLE EDWARD R. “EDDIE” TALLON, SR., FOR HIS COMMITTED SERVICE TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE CITIZENS OF DISTRICT 33 IN SPARTANBURG COUNTY AND TO WISH HIM SUCCESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Whereas, for ten years, the Honorable Edward R. “Eddie” Tallon, Sr., has faithfully represented the citizens of Spartanburg County’s District 33 in the House of Representatives of this great State; and

Whereas, a retired agent of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and president of the Tallon Group, Inc., Eddie Tallon graduated from Spartanburg Methodist College in 1970 and Limestone College in 1971. Prior to completing his education at Limestone, he served his country in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War (1963‑1967); and

Whereas, during his years in the House (2011‑2020), Eddie Tallon has used his experience for the benefit of his constituents and other citizens of our State. In his last session, he served as a member of the Judiciary Committee, which he currently serves as second vice president, and the Legislative Oversight Committee. In his first session at the State House, he was elected chairman of the Freshman Caucus. In addition to his current service as Spartanburg County Legislative Delegation chairman and assistant majority leader in the House, he also has served as chief whip for the Republican Caucus. He authored legislation to create the “Blue Alert” broadcast system, which alerts the public when a local, state, or federal law enforcement officer is killed, seriously injured, or abducted in the line of duty. He has championed countless bills to improve public safety and reform within the Department of Corrections. He sponsored and helped pass the “Ashley Hall Bill” in 2013 which continues to keepSouth Carolinians safe by preventing individuals who have been court adjudicated as mentally ill from purchasing firearms. He also has worked to advance the defense of the unborn. Further, he has received numerous Business Advocate Awards for supporting business‑friendly legislation; and

Whereas, Representative Tallon firmly believes in active participation in the community, and his convictions have led him to serve that community and beyond in various ways. Past and present service includes life membership in the International Association of Chiefs of Police and of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association Board (past president), membership on the National Food Service Security Council Board (past president), and service as spokesperson for the National Food Service Security Council. He also is a member of the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans Association, and NRA and serves as a Certified Fraud Examiner. In recognition of his service, Eddie Tallon has received a number of awards, among the earliest the 1972 Optimist Law Enforcement Officer of the Year and 1981 Lion of the Year; and

Whereas, additionally, this man of faith serves his God as a member of First Baptist Church in Spartanburg; and

Whereas, for Eddie Tallon, an important source of strength for his labors is his family. In 1971, he wed the charming Linda Roberts, and the couple was blessed with two children, Emily and E. Ray, Jr. In 2021, the senior Tallons will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary, and the House would like to extend to them advance felicitations as they anticipate reaching this joyful life milestone. Meanwhile, after his legislative retirement, Eddie looks forward to enjoying more time with Linda, their children, and their grandchildren; and

Whereas, on the occasion of his departure from the House of Representatives, his House colleagues, grateful for Eddie Tallon’s dedicated service to this body and the people of District 33, extend warmest best wishes for much contentment and blessing in the days to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, commend the Honorable Edward R. “Eddie” Tallon, Sr., for his committed service to this body and the citizens of District 33 in Spartanburg County and wish him success in all his future endeavors upon his retirement from the House of Representatives.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to our distinguished colleague, the Honorable Edward R. “Eddie” Tallon, Sr.

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