**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE ARTHUR JAMES GAYTON OF COLUMBIA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HIM A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are delighted to learn that Arthur James Gayton of Columbia will celebrate his eightieth birthday on April 11, 2019; and

Whereas, born on April 11, 1939, in Lewistown, Pennsylvania, Arthur James Gayton spent his youth and teenage life in Lewistown helping his only sister, Shirley, and the family. His first encounter with his lifelong career as a mechanic began in the eleventh grade; and

Whereas, while in school, he enjoyed running track and broad jumping, and he played football for a time; and

Whereas, realizing that Lewistown, Pennsylvania, did not offer the career goals he desired, Mr. Gayton enlisted in the United States Army in 1959 and served his country for twenty years. In 1960, he completed basic training at Fort Jackson, where he met and married Flossie Green, the Lord blessing their union with six children: Roslin, Sylvia, Timothy (deceased), Florence, Arthur, and Stacy; and

Whereas, following his discharge from the U.S. Army, Mr. Gayton made Columbia his home. He began working for the Columbia Fire Department the next day. He moved on to Fleet Services as supervisor and retired after twenty years with the City of Columbia. He presently helps city employees obtain their CDL licenses twice a week; and

Whereas, Mr. Gayton worked and supported all his children and grandchildren along the way. He joined Bible Way Church of Atlas Road, where he served as a bus driver for senior citizens and currently serves as a senior deacon. His ministry is always helping anyone he can to fix it, build it, work on it, or move it. Whatever he can do to help, he is always willing to do; and

Whereas, Flossie Gayton went to be with the Lord after fifty years of marriage, having served her loved ones well as a housewife who maintained the home and family while her husband fulfilled his military and other work duties. After Flossie’s passing, Arthur James Gayton wed Lorraine; and

Whereas, to those who know him, Mr. Gayton bears a well‑deserved reputation as someone who gives strong support to both friends and family as needed; and

Whereas, the Senate is proud to honor this adopted son of South Carolina at the celebration of his eightieth birthday, and the members join with his many well‑wishers in congratulating him on reaching this extraordinary milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Arthur James Gayton of Columbia on the occasion of his eightieth birthday and wish him a joyous birthday celebration and much happiness in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Arthur James Gayton.

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