**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND JAMES C. BROWN FOR HIS TWENTY‑SEVEN YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE PALMETTO STATE AS RICHLAND COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RICHLAND LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION OFFICE AND, AS HE BEGINS HIS RETIREMENT, TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Whereas, for twenty‑seven years, the Richland Legislative Delegation has enjoyed the benefit of the dedication, experience, and leadership of James C. Brown, Richland County veterans affairs officer and executive director of the Richland Legislative Delegation Office, who soon will retire; and

Whereas, born July 2, 1944, in Wando, James C. Brown graduated from Cainhoy High School in 1964. This patriot served in the Vietnam War as a paratrooper for the United States Army Airborne. After about three years of service in the Army, he attended Benedict College, where in 1971 he earned a Bachelor of Science in physical education. He then furthered his education at the University of South Carolina, completing his graduate work in vocational rehabilitation; and

Whereas, professionally, James Brown has worked with the Metropolitan Educational Foundation, South Carolina Department of Mental Health, South Carolina Department of Corrections, Richland‑Lexington Council on Aging, Midlands Human Resources Development Commission, Wateree Community Actions, Inc., South Carolina Department of Youth Services, and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control; and

Whereas, on March 6, 1995, James C. Brown was appointed by the Richland Legislative Delegation to serve as the Richland County veterans affairs officer (VAO). Shortly after his appointment as VAO, he was given the additional post of executive director of the Richland Legislative Delegation Office. He led a team that administers a comprehensive veterans’ benefit service program and addresses constituent concerns on behalf of the state senators and House members elected from Richland County. Mr. Brown also has served as chair of the Richland County Transportation Committee, which oversees the “C” Fund Program of Richland County; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown has affiliations with many state and community organizations, including the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council (former chair), State Fire Marshal Advisory Council, Foster Grandparent Program of the Midlands (former chair), National Youth Sports Program at the University of South Carolina (former vice chair), Wateree Community Action, and Central Midlands Council on Governments Rural Transportation Council; and

Whereas, understanding that on March 7, 2022, James C. Brown will retire from the posts he has filled so ably for almost three decades, the Senate wishes to express its gratitude for his exemplary service to the people of South Carolina, most particularly those of Richland County. The members trust he will find much joy in the increased leisure time he soon will be able to devote to family and friends and service to God during a well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate and commend James C. Brown for his twenty‑seven years of distinguished service to the people of the Palmetto State as Richland County veterans affairs officer and executive director of the Richland Legislative Delegation Office and, as he begins his retirement, extend best wishes for continued success and fulfillment in the years to come.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to James C. Brown.

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