**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF ALBERT LAWSON BONI OF AIKEN COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LARGE AND LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Albert Lawson Boni on December 27, 2020; and

Whereas, born in Brockton, Massachusetts, in 1933, Albert Boni earned a degree in chemistry from Harvard University in 1955, studying under Professor George Kistiakowsky of the Manhattan Project; and

Whereas, after graduation, he moved to Aiken to begin his career as a research and development chemist with the DuPont Company at the Savannah River Plant, now Savannah River Site. His primary assignment was the development of radioisotope measurement technology to assess the impact of nuclear materials production effluents and nuclear weapons test fallout on plant personnel, the surrounding public, and the environment; and

Whereas, this research led to Mr. Boni’s involvement with national and international nonproliferation of nuclear weapons as part of the United States Department of Energy Office of Nonproliferation and National Security. As research manager of the Environmental Technology Section, later known as the Nonproliferation Technologies Section, he established the Special Programs Group in support of federal agencies in the area of technical collection related to nuclear weapons development programs, earning him recognition from the United States government as an expert in environmental technical collection and the detection of nuclear proliferation signatures; and

Whereas, many agencies sought his expertise, such as the United States Department of Defense, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the National Aeronautical and Space Administration, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). He served with distinction on numerous government advisory committees and international inspection teams, including the IAEA Action Team for Iraq under the auspices of the United Nations weapons inspection team for Iraq; and

Whereas, Mr. Boni published over one hundred fifty peer‑reviewed journal articles and government reports on high sensitivity detection methods and technologies, including their application to environmental studies. In 1988, he received formal recognition by the United States government for his past contributions to nuclear nonproliferation, and in 1998, he received the Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness Distinguished Scientist Award for exceptional lifetime scientific contribution. The following year, he received the Don Orth Award in the area of nuclear nonproliferation and high sensitivity measurements of radionuclides; and

Whereas, an Eagle Scout, Mr. Boni served as waterfront director for the Boy Scout National Jamboree for many years and later coached the former St. Angela Academy of Aiken boys varsity team for many years, leading them to a state basketball championship. He adopted Clemson University as his university and was a long-time IPTAY member and an avid supporter of the Tigers; and

Whereas, he is survived by his beloved wife, Alice; four children: Debra Boni Gifford, Bradley Boni, Bret Goodwin, and Sharon DeHart; as well as eight grandchildren and two great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are indebted to Albert Boni for his life of dedication and excellence and the legacy he has left to keep future generations safe. 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 Albert Lawson Boni of Aiken County and extend their deepest sympathy to his large and loving family and his many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Albert Lawson Boni.

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