**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF FIRST SERGEANT BOYD MCDANIELS III OF RICHLAND COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LARGE AND LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives was saddened to learn of the death of First Sergeant Boyd McDaniels III at the age of fifty‑four on March 2, 2021; and

Whereas, born in Paterson, New Jersey, he was a son of Mamie Lee McDaniels and Reverend Boyd McDaniel’s, Jr., of Darlington, and he grew up in a loving family with several siblings: Tara Bines of Columbia; Zachary McDaniels of Baltimore, Maryland; Connie McDaniels Williams of Florence; and the late Robin Lee Williams and the late Phillip “Ricky” Rueben; and

Whereas, Mr. McDaniels moved to South Carolina with his family when he was eight years old and graduated from Lamar High School, where he played defensive back for the Lamar Silver Foxes’ football team and drove the school bus for two years; and

Whereas, he attended Chowan Junior College in Murfreesboro, North Carolina, and joined the United States Army in 1985. He served as a dedicated and highly accomplished soldier, distinguishing himself in several high profile conflicts, including Desert Storm I and II, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and several other classified missions; and

Whereas, a skilled soldier, Sergeant McDaniels rose through the ranks of the Army, served in both the famed 82nd Airborne Division and 101st Airborne Division, and was a trained marksman. He received training in lithography at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and served there some years later as a drill sergeant; and

Whereas, Sergeant McDaniels was awarded two Bronze Stars, United States flag, Service Star, Office Star Professional Badge, Basic Marks, Quail Badge, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Badge, Parachutist Terrorism Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and the Army Good Conduct Medal. He retired from military service on June 1, 2003; and

Whereas, in Germany, he joined the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons of North America and became the lodge’s youngest “Most Worshipful Grand Master,” and later he rose to the rank of 33rd degree. He was also a member of Shriners International; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, Deborah, whom he met while they both served in Germany, he reared two fine sons, Bryan McDaniels of Columbia and Ryan McDaniels of Rock Hill; and

Whereas, an avid fan of the Dallas Cowboys, the South Carolina Gamecocks football, and his Lamar Silver Foxes, Mr. McDaniels was gregarious, outgoing, and known for his barbecuing skills and seafood boils, but family held the most important place for him. Family members were the center of his universe; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the life and legacy of Boyd McDaniels and for the example of service to his nation and devotion to his family that he set for all who knew him. 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 First Sergeant Boyd McDaniels III of Richland 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 First Sergeant Boyd McDaniels III.

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