**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE KING BENJAMIN LINDBERGH JEFFCOAT FOR HIS YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS A RICHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE SCHOOL BOARD COMMISSIONER AND TO FURTHER RECOGNIZE HIS HISTORY OF EXEMPLARY PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to pause in their deliberations to recognize individuals who devote themselves to improving the Palmetto State. The Honorable King Benjamin Lindbergh Jeffcoat, who has spent a lifetime devoted to public service and improving the quality of life for those in his community and throughout this State, is one such person; and

Whereas, born September 21, 1930, Mr. Jeffcoat was the fifth of six children of Dave and Carrie B. Crumpton Jeffcoat. Educated in the public schools of Richland County, he was president of the first graduating class of C.A. Johnson High School. He continued his education at Benedict College, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree, followed by a master’s degree from Atlanta University. A lifetime student, he also completed additional studies at Pennsylvania State College, South Carolina State College, the University of South Carolina, and Benedict College; and

Whereas, in addition to his formal education, Mr. Jeffcoat was an honor graduate of the USAR Regular Army Drill Sergeant School and achieved the highest enlisted rank of command sergeant major. During his forty‑year military career, he was the first African American commandant of the 120th ARCOM Drill Sergeant School at Fort Jackson, and he was the first African American reservist qualified trainer to operate the “Live Bay” hand grenade range. Among his pins, ribbons, and medals for meritorious service, he received the One Oak Leaf Cluster and Two Oak Leaf Cluster; and

Whereas, passionate about the field of education, Mr. Jeffcoat is widely known for the thirty‑three years he spent in public service as a teacher of mathematics, an assistant principal, a counselor, and a principal. He continued this tradition of dedication and commitment with a fourteen‑year tenure on the board of school commissioners for Richland County School District One, where he influenced policy that affected more than twenty‑five thousand students annually; and

Whereas, a man of action, Mr. Jeffcoat continues to serve the students of Richland One on the W.A. Perry Task Force of community volunteers of health initiatives, as well as the C.A. Johnson Health Sciences Magnet Advisory Committee. An active community leader, he contributes to the local theaters, the Columbia Historical Society, Riverbanks Zoo, city and state museums, and EdVenture Children’s Museum. He also contributes his time and personal efforts as a Little League coach, Cub Scout and Boy Scout Master, executive committeeman and president of Ward 19, and acts as advisor and campaign chairman for a number of political leaders; and

Whereas, a dutiful man for whom philanthropy and the betterment of others is incredibly important, Mr. Jeffcoat has spent much of his personal and professional life devoted to the service of others. His tireless work is indicative of his tremendous character and has had an undeniable impact in the lives of so many of this State’s citizens. Grateful for the passion, commitment, and dedication that King Benjamin Lindbergh Jeffcoat has shown in serving the State and the people of South Carolina, the House of Representatives is pleased to salute him and thank him for his public service. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend the Honorable King Benjamin Lindbergh Jeffcoat for his years of distinguished service as a Richland County School District One school board commissioner, and further recognize his history of exemplary public service to the State of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable King Benjamin Lindbergh Jeffcoat.

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