**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF GEORGE EURIPIDES MELONAS OF CHAPIN AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of George Euripides Melonas of Chapin on Saturday, May 29, 2021, at the venerable age of ninety‑three; and

Whereas, born on January 2, 1928, the third of C.E. and Antiope S. Melonas’s seven children, George lived a life of service to his country, the City of Columbia, his family, and friends. At the early age of seventeen, he joined the U.S. Navy near the end of World War II and was stationed in the Pacific Theater; and

Whereas, after leaving the Navy, he returned to Columbia and worked for McCormick Funeral Home. He found himself in uniform again, this time serving the City of Columbia with the Columbia Fire Department at the main station. This was to become his career. After thirty‑five years, he retired as Assistant Chief Melonas; and

Whereas, he then worked with his brother Veron at the Elite Epicurean Restaurant on Main Street in Columbia, serving the community and patrons from everywhere delicious Greek food, drink, and music at the annual Main Street Jazz event; and

Whereas, George was a Mason, an altar boy, and a lifetime member of the Orthodox Church; and

Whereas, in 1951, he wed Lillian Virginia Batton of Greenwood. They were married for fifty‑one years until she passed away; and

Whereas, George Melonas leaves to cherish his memory his five children, Karen E. Wells (Doug) of Charleston and Christie L. Watson (Charles), George E. Melonas, Jr. (Cindy), Maria V. Bates (Richard), and D. Stratton Melonas (Jenny), all of Lexington; his grandchildren, Douglas Wells, Jr., Hali Wells, Matthew Watson, Meredith Everett (Ryan), Alex Watson (Sandra), Nick Watson (Jamie), Stephen Melonas (Laura), Savannah Melonas, Sophia Bates, Sarah McNab, Lily and David Melonas, and Brent Garner; and nine great‑grandchildren. He will be greatly missed. 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 George Euripides Melonas of Chapin and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of George Melonas.

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