**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE LARRY LABRUCE KOON OF LEXINGTON, TO CELEBRATE HIS LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened by the passing of the Honorable Larry LaBruce Koon, former member of the South Carolina House, on October 15, 2021, at the age of seventy‑seven; and

Whereas, born February 18, 1944, in Batesburg‑Leesville, he was the son of the Reverend Carl B. and Jennie Koon. He married his beloved wife, Kathy, on January 23, 1966, and graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1967; and

Whereas, Larry worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina for nearly thirty years, earning awards for his sales to include the Distinguished Sales Award and the Companion Life Sales Award, both of which he received multiple years. In addition to his celebrated career with Blue Cross Blue Shield, he founded Cherokee Industrial Tires, Inc. with his wife, Kathy, in 1970; and

Whereas, Larry Koon strongly believed in active community involvement, and he put his convictions into action by serving his community in various capacities. A member of the Lexington Rotary Club (1974‑1998), he received that organization’s prestigious Paul Harris Fellow recognition. Further, this avid fox, raccoon, and rabbit hunter was president of the South Carolina Fox Hunters Association (1976‑1977, 1985‑1986); and

Whereas, in addition, Larry served in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1975 to 2004. For his committed service, he received an award from the Clemson University College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences (1992), as well as the State Library’s Distinguished Service Award (1997‑1998), the State Conservation Districts’ Legislator Award (1999‑2000), and the State of South Carolina’s Order of the Palmetto, its highest civilian honor (1979); and

Whereas, a man of faith, Larry Koon found his spiritual home at Red Bank Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and Sunday School teacher; and

Whereas, Larry Koon leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, Katherine “Kathy” Koon; his sons, Bruce, Travis (Anna), Jason (Malissa), Jonathan (Misty), and “Cliffy”; eleven grandchildren; and two great‑grandchildren. He is also survived by his brothers Ted (Cheryl), Steve (Jennie), and George (Deborah), as well as ten nieces and nephews. He will be remembered as a humble public servant and beloved South Carolina leader, one who 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 the Honorable Larry LaBruce Koon of Lexington, celebrate his life and achievements, and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Katherine Koon for the family.

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