**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MAJOR LONNIE SMITH UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE GREENWOOD COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE, TO COMMEND HIM FOR NEARLY FORTY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased learn that Major Lonnie Smith of the Greenwood County Sheriff’s Office and Commander of the Detention Center Division has begun his well‑deserved retirement after a distinguished career of outstanding service; and

Whereas, a lifelong law enforcement officer with a history of loyalty and integrity, Smith spent the entirety of his career working for the sheriff’s office, beginning with his hiring in 1983 as a detention officer. In the 1990’s, Smith began his work as a deputy and by 2000 had been promoted to shift captain, a position which he enjoyed tremendously as it brought him closer to his team of deputies; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Sheriff Dan Wideman, Smith was promoted to major, in charge of the uniform patrol division leading all road deputies. Under Sheriff Tony Davis, he became second‑in‑command and put in charge of administrative operations. In 2011‑2013, he was brought back to the jail to serve as jail administrator, before returning to lead operations. Under Sheriff Dennis Kelly, Smith was once again called to the jail where his career started, volunteering to take up the mantle when Captain Kenneth Downing retired as jail administrator; and

Whereas, a dedicated and effective officer, one of Smith’s most valuable contributions to the sheriff’s office throughout his career was the institutional knowledge he gained and the relationships he built within the community. He worked tirelessly, getting to know inmates, working alongside attorneys to facilitate the legal process, making friendships in the community everywhere he went, and knowing the ins and outs of the sheriff’s office in a way that only can be learned through many years of experience; and

Whereas, grateful for his consistent commitment and the tremendous leadership Major Lonnie Smith bestowed on this great State throughout his career with the Greenwood County Sheriff’s Office, the South Carolina House of Representatives takes great pleasure in wishing him all the best as he enters retirement and trusts that he will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Major Lonnie Smith upon the occasion of his retirement from the Greenwood County Sheriff’s Office, commend him for nearly forty years of dedicated service, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Major Lonnie Smith.

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