**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR THE COMRADES OF GRAY‑CORKERELL VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 3746 IN ROCK HILL UPON THE OPENING OF THEIR NEW POST HOME AND WISH THEM GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS THEY CONTINUE TO SERVE THEIR FELLOW COMRADES AND THEIR COMMUNITY.

Whereas, on March 5, 2022, the Gray-Corkerell Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3746 will celebrate the Grand Opening of its new post home located at 1404 Crawford Road in Rock Hill, marking the official opening of this impressive facility and the beginning of the next chapter of service and comradeship for veterans who answered their nation’s call to serve in wars and conflicts around the world to protect our homeland and way of life; and

Whereas, it is entirely appropriate to celebrate the tremendous accomplishments of the Gray-Corkerell comrades who came together, gave, and worked tirelessly for many years to raise this structure up from the dirt; and

Whereas, the post’s new home will serve as a place where veterans and their families may find a smiling face and a helping hand and also will provide a beacon of hope for those who are down and out and a source of admiration for the Crawford Road community at large. It also will enable the post to provide services to veterans and their families as it has done for more than eighty years since the post was established on September 8, 1938, by seventeen Black veterans upon returning home from military service during World War I; and

Whereas, members of the post who faithfully served in the United States Army, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Air Force, and United States Coast Guard on battlefields all over the world now may return home to find in this new facility a place of comfort where they may meet and socialize with brothers and sisters in arms in a supportive environment while returning to civilian life; and

Whereas, the members of the post have served honorably in numerous wars, including the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the Afghanistan War as part of the greatest fighting force in the world with the highest level of dedication, commitment, and sacrifice; and

Whereas, the post has been the home of an original member of the Montford Point Marines, the first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps, a double bronze medal winner who served in Vietnam with several confirmed kills of the enemy, and many other soldiers and airmen who distinguished themselves in service, honor, and dedication with the military of the United States of America; and

Whereas, the comrades of Gray‑Corkerell Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3746 individually and collectively work to uphold the motto of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, “No one does more for Veterans,” to the highest level. Consequently, no one in the post should ever feel neglected or forgotten; and

Whereas, over the years members of Gray‑Corkerell Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3746 and its auxiliary have participated in countless charitable activities to benefit the veterans’ home, disabled veterans, and youth and senior citizens of the Rock Hill community; and

Whereas, the Gray‑Corkerell Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3746 have stayed committed to the mission of the Veterans of Foreign Wars: “To foster camaraderie among American veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military, and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans,” for more than eighty years, and doubtlessly will for decades to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate and honor the comrades of Gray‑Corkerell Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3746 upon the opening of their new post home and wish them God’s richest blessings as they continue to serve their fellow comrades and their community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the members of Gray‑Corkerell Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3746.

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