**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE J. GARY SIMRILL ON HIS MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OVER NEARLY THIRTY YEARS AND TO WISH HIM CONTENTMENT AND SUCCESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, for almost three decades and with faithful integrity, the Honorable J. Gary Simrill has represented the citizens of York County, District 46, in the House of Representatives of this great State; and

Whereas, a businessman, Gary Simrill is the son of T. Hugh Simrill, Jr., and Diana Belk Simrill. This native of Rock Hill continues to reside in his lovely hometown; and

Whereas, in preparation for his career, he earned his bachelor’s degree from Rock Hill’s Winthrop University in 1991; and

Whereas, the first Republican elected from Rock Hill, he began his service in the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1993. Prior to his election, he made his first foray into politics by working with Governor Campbell; and

Whereas, while a member of the House of Representatives, Gary Simrill has demonstrated his leadership abilities and commitment to governing as a member of various committees, most recently Ways and Means, where he presently serves as chair. In addition, he also currently serves as House Majority Leader and as the chair of the Higher Education Budget subcommittee; and

Whereas, Representative Simrill strongly believes in active community involvement, and he puts his convictions into action by serving his community in various capacities, including as a member of the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis International. Further, this man of faith finds his spiritual home at Westminster Presbyterian Church, where he is a member; and

Whereas, in recognition of his spirit of excellence and dedicated service to the people of South Carolina, Gary Simrill has been granted various honors, among them the South Carolina Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind’s Distinguished Service Award and the 2020 Wilkins Award for Excellence in Legislative Leadership, the latter bestowed by the Riley Institute. He also was selected for inclusion in *Who’s Who in American Politics* and *Who’s Who in the South and Southwest*; and

Whereas, Gary Simrill finds strength for his labors in the firm support of his family: his wife, the former Mary Ruth Dobson, whom he married in the same year he took up his duties in the House of Representatives; and their three children, Mallory Graham, Sarah Kate, and Joseph Dozier; and

Whereas, on the occasion of his departure from the House of Representatives, his House colleagues, grateful for Gary Simrill’s committed service to this body and the people of District 46, extend warmest best wishes for much fulfillment and happiness in this new phase of his life. 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 J. Gary Simrill on his meritorious service in the South Carolina House of Representatives over nearly thirty years and wish him contentment and success in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to our distinguished colleague, the Honorable J. Gary Simrill.

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