**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO AUTHORIZE THE CLERK OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SELECT AN ARTIST TO PAINT THE PORTRAIT OF THE HONORABLE JAMES H. “JAY” LUCAS OF HARTSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE PLACED APPROPRIATELY IN THE HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON ITS COMPLETION.

Whereas, the Honorable James H. “Jay” Lucas of Hartsville, South Carolina, has been a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives since his first election in 1998 and was the first Republican since Reconstruction to represent House District 65; and

Whereas, Jay Lucas quickly rose to a position of leadership in the House serving on the House Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee, the Judiciary Committee, and then on the Ways and Means Committee before being elected Speaker Pro Tempore in 2010 and serving with distinction in that role until his election as Speaker in 2014. The 24/7 requirements of the position notwithstanding, he answered the call as only he could with his strong ethical character and brilliant mind tempered only by his fantastic sense of humor; and

Whereas, a consensus builder with that amiable personality, he has guided the House of Representatives through such complex issues as reforming the Transportation Department, funding of long neglected and aging roads and bridges, education reform, and critically important Santee Cooper reform; and

Whereas, during his tenure as Speaker, he has continuously upheld the integrity of the House of Representatives and is known for the professionalism, energy, dedication, and determination with which he conducted the business of the House. His impact on the House and on the great state of South Carolina cannot be properly measured as it will continue to be felt for years to come; and

Whereas, though his public accomplishments are many, the Speaker is also the devoted husband of wife Tracy and the proud father to Will who has gifted his parents with their first grandchild; and

Whereas, it is with great pleasure and respect that his colleagues desire to recognize his strength, loyalty, and leadership for more than two decades in his beloved House of Representatives and to publicly applaud his dedication to the high calling of public service. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the Clerk of the South Carolina House of Representatives is authorized to select an artist to paint the portrait of the Honorable James H. “Jay” Lucas of Hartsville, South Carolina, to be placed appropriately in the Hall of the House of Representatives upon its completion.

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