**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE DUTCH FORK HIGH SCHOOL AIR FORCE JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS CADETS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP, CITIZENSHIP, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives take great pleasure in commending the remarkable dedication and example of young citizens in the Palmetto State like the cadets of Dutch Fork High School’s Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) Unit SC‑921; and

Whereas, in the last five years, thecadets of Unit SC‑921 have maintained exceptional unit accomplishments, currently led by Major Reginald L. Slade, United States Air Force (retired), senior aerospace science instructor at Dutch Fork; and

Whereas, established in 1992, Unit SC‑921 received Distinguished Unit honors which are determined annually by AFJROTC Headquarters in 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2021; and

Whereas, in addition, the Dutch Fork unit has earned Distinguished Unit with Merit, which is awarded tri‑annually, in 2014, 2017, and 2020; and

Whereas, these outstanding awards made a significant contribution to Dutch Fork High School’s designation as Palmetto’s Finest in 2019‑2020; and

Whereas, each summer Dutch Fork cadets of Unit SC‑921 attend the largest AFJROTC cadet leadership course at The Citadel, and in 2021 the South Carolina Cadet Leadership Course Awards presented to Dutch Fork cadets included number one of four hundred Cadets (Wing Commander); Outstanding Flight Commander; Outstanding Basic Cadet; Outstanding Mission Support Staff; and three Superior Performer awards, four Distinguished Graduates, and three Academic awards, all three in the top 10%; and

Whereas, Unit SC‑921 provided over fifteen thousand hours of community service in the past five years, along with after‑school Leadership Development training hours; and

Whereas, Leadership Development requirements for AFJROTC include cadet attendance at after‑school team events and practices, such as archery, marksmanship, aviation/STEM, drill and ceremony, obstacle course, and saber; and

Whereas, the unit’s primary community service events support Salvation Army Ringing of the Bells, raising over twenty thousand dollars in the last five years during 1,225 hours; Sharing God’s Love; Adopt‑a‑Highway on Kennerly Road; Scare Hunger, the unit’s food drive; presentation of colors at home football games and at women’s basketball conference games for the University of South Carolina; veterans’ parades; and various community projects; and

Whereas, in 2018, Unit SC‑921 provided 3,285 community service hours during one hundred four events and in 2019, 3,644 community service hours during one hundred fifty-seven events, as well as four hundred ninety-seven Leadership Development requirement hours. In the height of COVID‑19 during 2020, the unit provided 1,973 community service hours during fifty-eight events and served 2,423 Leadership Development requirement hours. In 2021, the unit provided eight hundred ninety-three community service hours during forty-two events and served one thousand seven hundred Leadership Development requirement hours. Thus far in 2022, 1,376 community service hours have been served during forty-three events, along with 1,919 hours of Leadership Development requirement hours, for a total of 11,171 hours of community service over the past five years; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the pride and recognition that the cadets of the Dutch Fork Air Force JROTC Unit SC‑921 have brought to their school and community and to the State, and the members look forward to following their continued accomplishments in the days 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, recognize and honor the Dutch Fork High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets for their outstanding leadership, citizenship, and community service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Dutch Fork Air Force JROTC Unit SC‑921.

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