**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS PROFOUND SORROW UPON THE PASSING OF MICHAEL “MR. MIKE” GRAMLING SALLEY, JR., TO CELEBRATE HIS LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Michael “Mr. Mike” Gramling Salley, Jr., on Sunday, May 8, 2022, at the venerable age of eighty‑four; and

Whereas, born in Orangeburg, Michael was the son of the late Michael Gramling Salley, Sr., and the late Ethel Bennett Salley. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Forestry from Clemson University, and had a successful career as the owner and operator of Michael Salley & Associates, was a former employee at the South Carolina Forestry Commission, and served in the United States Army and United States Army Reserves for more than twenty years; and

Whereas, a man of faith, he was a member of St. Andrew’s United Methodist Church, where he was a well‑loved member of the choir and was known for assisting in any way he was able. He was also a man with a sincere devotion to serving others, serving as a Boy Scout leader, as a member of the Lion’s Club, and, most importantly, through his passion as one of the founding volunteers of Edisto Habitat for Humanity in 1989; and

Whereas, following the founding of the Edisto Habitat for Humanity, he worked on more than eighty homes. Known for his warmth, devotion to others, and ability to deeply connect with families in need, he was known for making lifelong bonds and helping families regardless of what needed adjusted or fixed. A true inspiration for others to follow, he entrusted his legacy to the volunteers he mentored through Habitat for Humanity; and

Whereas, well recognized by his peers, Mr. Salley was the recipient of several awards over his lifetime, including the United Way of the Midlands Community Impact Award in 2007 and the Austin Cunningham Award at the Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce’s annual banquet in 2010. Additionally, he was Kiwanis Club’s Orangeburg Citizen of the Year in 2016, served as the grand marshal of the 2009 Orangeburg County Christmas Parade, and the Orangeburg County Community park was named in his honor in 2019; and

Whereas, his absence will be deeply felt by his family, his community, and everyone involved with the Edisto Habitat for Humanity. He will be remembered as a beacon to follow in achieving a well‑loved and fulfilling life dedicated towards service to others; and

Whereas, Michael Gramling Salley, Jr., leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Sara “Penny” Moore Salley; his son, Michael Gramling “Gram” Salley III; daughter, Sara S. Ardis; grandchildren, Emily Ardis, Garrick Ardis, and Zakk Salley; brothers, Leonard Salley and Mackay Salley; Cousin, Dr. Lawton Salley; and a host of other family and friends. He will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege and pleasure of knowing him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express profound sorrow upon the passing of Michael “Mr. Mike” Gramling Salley, Jr., celebrate his life and achievements, and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Michael Gramling Salley, Jr.

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