**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR JAMES O. DOGAN, SUPREME PRESIDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FREE AND ACCEPTED MODERN MASONS, INC. AND ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO THANK HIM FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate have learned that the Illustrious James O. Dogan, Supreme President/Chief Executive Office of the International Free and Accepted Modern Masons, Inc. and Order of the Eastern Star, will soon begin a well‑deserved retirement after twelve years of faithful and outstanding service to the citizens of the Palmetto State and this great nation; and

Whereas, born on September 20, 1941 in Greenville, young James attended Greenville County schools and upon graduation, pursued additional studies and graduated from Greenville Technical College; and

Whereas, in 1964, James began his journey with International Free and Accepted Modern Masons, Inc. and Order of the Eastern Star. He was elevated to 33rd Degree Mason and he served as financial secretary at St. Paul Lodge #08. Eventually becoming Worshipful Master, he expanded his wings and soon became Deputy Grand Master and shortly thereafter, Grand Master for the State of South Carolina. Having shown good stewardship over the state, he emerged to become the Southeast National District Grand Master, overseeing North and South Carolina, the initial states defining the Southeast National District; and

Whereas, having served in multiple leadership roles within the Fraternal Order, to include Grand Potentate and State Sovereign of Masons, the Illustrious James O. Dogan ran for the seat of Supreme Deputy Grand Master and won. Within a few years, James became the Supreme Grand Master under the Illustrious George Mathews;

and

Whereas, since becoming Supreme President/CEO in 2009, James has modernized the Home Office with a twenty‑first century computer system, upgraded materials and resources available in the Supply Store, streamlined the oversight of International Masons Credit Union, and garnered an agreement for WGPR 107.5 FM radio station with Urban One Broadcasting Corporation. In addition, he established a museum in honor of Dr. William V. Banks; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is grateful for the legacy of leadership and excellence James has bestowed on this great State and appreciates his long and enduring service to the citizens of South Carolina. Taking great pleasure in wishing him well as he enters into retirement, the members trust he will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate and honor James O. Dogan, Supreme President/Chief Executive Officer of the International Free and Accepted Modern Masons, Inc. and Order of the Eastern Star, upon the occasion of his retirement, thank him for his dedicated service, and wish him continued success and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. James O. Dogan.

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