**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MAJOR DWIGHT L. BRADHAM, JR. FOR RECEIVING THE SOUTH CAROLINA VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICERS.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Major Dwight L. Bradham, Jr. has received the South Carolina Veterans Affairs Officer of the Year award from the South Carolina Association of County Veterans Affairs Officers; and

Whereas, a resident of Aiken since 1993, Major Bradham is an alumnus of Excelsior College in New York; and

Whereas, a veteran of the United States Army National Guard, Major Bradham enlisted in 1981 and began his active service in 1987. He served in a variety of non-commissioned officer roles before being selected as the first candidate from South Carolina to attend the Accelerated Officer Candidate program in 1999, from which he graduated as the program’s Honor Graduate; and

Whereas, Major Bradham’s officer career included tours in Iraq as a Signal Platoon Leader and Battalion Logistics Officer and in Afghanistan as the Agriculture Team Leader for South Carolina’s second Agribusiness Development Team. During his stateside duties, he rose through the officer ranks to the role of Executive Officer for Recruiting and Retention Command. He was the first Commander of the Recruit Sustainment Program; and

Whereas, Major Bradham served as a Military Employment Advisor with South Carolina’s Operation Palmetto Employment program, providing employment services support to veterans in McCormick, Edgefield, Saluda, Aiken, Barnwell, Bamberg, Allendale, Orangeburg, and Hampton counties. He worked with CVS Health as a Logistics Supervisor in the Beech Island Distribution Center. Major Bradham began his role as the Aiken County Veterans Affairs Officer in January of 2016, after being selected for the role by the Aiken County Legislative Delegation; and

Whereas, under Major Bradham’s leadership, the Aiken County Veterans Affairs Office has greatly expanded its services to veterans across the region. The office now provides assistance to more than fifteen thousand veterans and their forty thousand dependents living in Aiken County; and

Whereas, over the years, Major Bradham has received a number of military honors and awards, including the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the NATO medal; and

Whereas, Major Bradham is married to Heather Wagner Bradham, and together, they have two daughters, Emily and Isabella; and

Whereas, the Senate is grateful for Major Bradham’s dedicated service and takes great pleasure in saluting him for receiving the prestigious South Carolina Veterans Affairs Officer of the Year award. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Major Dwight L. Bradham, Jr. for receiving the South Carolina Veterans Affairs Officer of the Year award from the South Carolina Association of County Veterans Affairs Officers and thank him for his service and leadership.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Major Dwight L. Bradham, Jr.

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