INTRODUCED

January 12, 2022

**S. 975**

Introduced by Senators Young and Massey

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Read the first time January 12, 2022.

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO AUTHORIZE THE RELOCATION OF THE VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL, ETERNAL FLAME, AND ACCOMPANYING UNITED STATES FLAG INSTALLATION LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF EDGEFIELD AVENUE AND LAURENS STREET IN THE CITY OF AIKEN TO THE AIKEN COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL LOCATED AT 1435 RICHLAND AVENUE EAST.

Whereas, both the Aiken City Council and the Aiken County Council have requested approval from the General Assembly to relocate the Vietnam War Memorial presently located in downtown Aiken in the right-of-way of Laurens Street near the intersection with Edgefield Avenue to the Aiken County Veterans Memorial Park located 1.7 seven miles away at 1435 Richland Avenue East; and

Whereas, both the Aiken City Council and the Aiken County Council have also stated that the relocation is essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the local citizens, veterans, and their extended families.

Whereas, the Aiken County Veterans Council has requested that the memorial be relocated and has endorsed the proposal to relocate it to the Aiken County Veterans Memorial Park. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. The Aiken County Council and the Aiken City Council are hereby authorized by the General Assembly to proceed with all appropriate actions necessary to relocate the Vietnam War Memorial, eternal flame, and accompanying United States flag installation from the corner of Edgefield Avenue and Laurens Street in Aiken to the Aiken County Veterans Memorial Park located at 1435 Richland Avenue East in Aiken.

SECTION 2. The current location of the Vietnam War memorial, eternal flame, and accompanying United States flag installation in Aiken is hazardous and is no longer safe and accessible for visitation, assemblies, and maintenance, nor to render appropriate honors because of traffic concerns. Under the exigencies of this particular case, the General Assembly has a logical basis and sound reason for enacting this joint resolution.

SECTION 3. The General Assembly finds that the sections presented in this act constitute one subject as required by Article III, Section 17 of the South Carolina Constitution, in particular finding that each change and each topic relates directly to or in conjunction with other sections to the subject of the relocation of the Vietnam War memorial, eternal flame, and accompanying United States flag installation as clearly enumerated in the title.

The General Assembly further finds that a common purpose or relationship exists among the sections, representing a potential plurality but not disunity of topics, notwithstanding that reasonable minds might differ in identifying more than one topic contained in the act.

SECTION 4. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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