**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE HONORABLE PAUL REYNOLDS THURMOND FOR HIS COMMITTED SERVICE TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE AND THE CITIZENS OF DISTRICT 41 IN CHARLESTON AND DORCHESTER COUNTIES AND TO WISH HIM SUCCESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE SENATE.

Whereas, for four years, the Honorable Paul Reynolds Thurmond has faithfully represented the citizens of District 41 in Charleston and Dorchester counties in the Senate of this great State; and

Whereas, an attorney and founding partner with Thurmond Kirchner Timbes & Yelverton, P.A., Paul Thurmond earned his bachelor’s degree at Vanderbilt University with honors in 1998, followed by a juris doctor from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 2002. While at Vanderbilt, this 1994 South Carolina state tennis champion served as captain of his college’s varsity tennis team; and

Whereas, other career endeavors include service as assistant solicitor for the Ninth Judicial Circuit (2002‑2005), adjunct professor at the College of Charleston (2005‑2006), and part‑time prosecutor for the City of North Charleston (2010‑2012); and

Whereas, during his years in the Senate, Paul Thurmond has used his experience for the benefit of his constituents and other citizens of our State as a member of the Banking and Insurance Committee; Education Committee; Fish, Game and Forestry Committee; Judiciary Committee; and Medical Affairs Committee. As one example of his desire to serve his constituents to the best of his ability, he had his office door in the Gressette Building taken off its hinges and removed to effect an “open-door policy”; and

Whereas, Senator Thurmond firmly believes in active participation in the community, and his convictions have led him to serve his community in various ways. These include membership in the St. Andrews Rotary Club and Ashley River Baptist Church. In 2006, Paul Thurmond was elected to Charleston County Council, where he represented approximately 35,000 constituents. He was elected vice chair in 2009. For his success and community involvement as an “under 40” professional, in 2009 Paul Thurmond was named to the *Charleston Regional Business Journal*’s “Forty Under 40” list. In April 2016, he received the University of South Carolina School of Law’s highest honor, the Compleat Lawyer Award, for his outstanding civic and professional accomplishments; and

Whereas, for Paul Thurmond, an important source of strength for his labors is his family. In 2003, he wed the lovely Katie England, and the two now have five children, Thaddeus Connor, James Fletch, Hollis England, Sullivan Wren, and Nylund Cade; and

Whereas, in his work as a South Carolina state senator, Paul Thurmond has added to the already famed heritage of his family’s involvement in public service. Born in Greenwood, he is the son of Nancy Moore Thurmond and the late U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond, who also served as a state senator and circuit court judge, as well as Governor of this State; and

Whereas, with great regret, the members note that when Paul Thurmond leaves the Senate, the best coffee and chocolates in the Gressette Building will depart with him. His colleagues have benefited from his toothsome treats as much as they have from his experience and wise counsel; and

Whereas, on the occasion of his departure from the Senate, his Senate colleagues, grateful for Paul Thurmond’s dedicated service to this body and the people of District 41, extend warmest best wishes for much contentment and blessing in the new challenges he looks forward to in days to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, commend the Honorable Paul Reynolds Thurmond for his committed service to the South Carolina Senate and the citizens of District 41 in Charleston and Dorchester counties and wish him success in all his future endeavors upon his retirement from the Senate.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to our distinguished colleague, the Honorable Paul Reynolds Thurmond.

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