**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO INVITE THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, THE HONORABLE MICHAEL “MIKE” D. HELM, TO ADDRESS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN JOINT SESSION IN THE CHAMBER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT 12:30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2015.

Whereas, Commander Helm is a distinguished veteran of the United States Army, serving during the Vietnam War. Commander Helm grew up in Norcatur, Kansas and is a retired United States Postal Service mail carrier with more than thirty-three years of service; and

Whereas, Commander Helm has served the American Legion as commander of the Department of Nebraska from 1987 to 1988 and as national vice commander from 2003 to 2004. He has also distinguished himself as the national commander’s representative to the National Legislative Commission, as the chairman of the National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission and the chairman of the Foreign Relations Commission. At the local and state level, Commander Helm has served as post adjutant, post commander, county commander, district commander, department area and senior vice commander, in addition to other committee assignments and chairmanships; and

Whereas, Commander Helm was elected to serve the members of the American Legion on August 28, 2014 in Charlotte, North Carolina at the ninety-sixth annual national convention; and

Whereas, with more than 32,000 members in South Carolina, and 2.4 million members nationally, the American Legion is one of the most influential and prestigious organizations in the United States; and

Whereas, speaking before a joint session of the General Assembly is an honor reserved for leaders of national prominence. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, invite the commander of the American Legion, the Honorable Michael “Mike” D. Helm, to address the General Assembly in joint session in the chamber of the South Carolina House of Representatives at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2015.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Michael “Mike” D. Helm.

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