**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE DR. STEPHEN W. “STEVE” HEFNER UPON BEING NAMED THE 2016 SOUTH CAROLINA SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS.

Whereas, in recognition of his many contributions to education, Dr. Stephen W. “Steve” Hefner of Lexington‑Richland School District Five has been named South Carolina Superintendent of the Year by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators; and

Whereas, this award is presented annually to a district superintendent as part of the national Superintendent of the Year program of the American Association of School Administrators; and

Whereas, Dr. Hefner also won the South Carolina Superintendent of the Year award in 2002, while he was the superintendent for Richland School District Two, making him the only superintendent in South Carolina to earn the honor twice; and

Whereas, in preparation for his accomplished career, Dr. Hefner received his undergraduate degree in English from Southeast Missouri State College in 1970, followed by a master’s degree in counselor education in 1974, and a doctorate in educational administration in 1985, both from the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, he notably served his country as Chaplain Assistant at Fort Jackson in Columbia from 1971‑1973 and received an Army Commendation Medal in 1972; and

Whereas, Dr. Hefner began his career in education as an English teacher in Missouri in 1970. He then went on to become a guidance counselor for Richland County School District Two in 1974 and moved up in the ranks in that district to serve as Superintendent from 1994‑2010, before becoming Superintendent of Lexington‑Richland School District Five in January 2011; and

Whereas, Dr. Hefner is a strong believer in active community involvement, including service on local boards such as United Way of the Midlands, EdVenture, Richland Community Health Partners, and Irmo Chamber of Commerce; and

Whereas, through the years Dr. Hefner has engaged in many education‑related state and national presentations, authored numerous publications addressing education quality, and created innovative programs such as magnet centers, service learning, and technology initiatives; and

Whereas, he also is involved in numerous professional organizations and has earned several personal and professional honors, among them the 2015 Outstanding School Superintendent by the Career and Technology Education Administrators Division and the Order of the Palmetto in 2009; and

Whereas, Dr. Hefner and his wife, Lana, are the proud parents of two children, Megan and Channing; and

Whereas, highly respected in his community and among his peers, the General Assembly is delighted Dr. Hefner has been chosen for this honor and wishes him well as he goes on to compete for the 2016 National Superintendent of the Year award sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, honor and recognize Dr. Stephen W. Hefner upon being named the 2016 South Carolina Superintendent of the Year by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Dr. Hefner.

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