**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR FIREFIGHTER BRIAN WASTLER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MYRTLE BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR BEING NAMED THE 2016 CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the sacrificial work of South Carolina’s first responders, like firefighter Brian Wastler, who put themselves in harm’s way every day for the safety and well‑being of the citizens of this great State; and

Whereas, originally from Maryland, Brian Wastler moved to Myrtle Beach in 2004 to continue a career in real estate development; and

Whereas, while serving as a little league coach for his children, he grew to appreciate the Myrtle Beach community and quickly realized that he wanted to serve his community for a living; and

Whereas, for a year, Mr. Wastler volunteered with the Myrtle Beach Fire Department in the public education division, and in January 2011, he became an employee of the department; and

Whereas, after five years of loyal service, he continues to enjoy being a firefighter, bringing to his work a healthy combination of common sense and the knowledge that comes from experience and maturity. Mr. Wastler excels under pressure, remaining calm and unruffled even in the most stressful emergencies; and

Whereas, a true leader in one of the busiest fire stations in the city, he is committed to learning something new every day, taking training classes to increase his knowledge of every aspect of firefighting. He sets an example for his peers to follow by showing up to work with a positive attitude and treating the city’s customers with dignity and respect; and

Whereas, willing to serve his coworkers and members of the community in any way he can, Mr. Wastler plans the annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa to raise money for local underprivileged children, using the donations to purchase gifts for the children. He also participates in the annual Shop with a Cop program, a community‑based project sponsored by firefighters and police officers from the City of Myrtle Beach, which takes underprivileged children shopping for Christmas; and

Whereas, he also is a member of the United States Army Reserve Task Force 2 team; and

Whereas, Brian Wastler is the proud father of four sons. His oldest attends Clemson University; the middle two, who are twins, attend Socastee High School; and the youngest attends Forestbrook Elementary School; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives wishes to express its gratitude to Brian Wastler for his dedicated service in protecting the citizens of Horry County and the State of South Carolina, and the members heartily congratulate him on receiving the well‑deserved recognition as the 2016 City of Myrtle Beach Firefighter of the Year. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor firefighter Brian Wastler for his outstanding contributions to the Myrtle Beach Fire Department and congratulate him for being named the 2016 City of Myrtle Beach Firefighter of the Year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to firefighter Brian Wastler.

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