**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR REVEREND THOMAS “TOMMY” MILTON KNOTTS, AND TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS YEARS OF ENTHUSIASTIC AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to express their profound appreciation to Reverend Thomas “Tommy” Milton Knotts for his many outstanding contributions to his community, his State, and his church; and

Whereas, born on March 9, 1931, in Augusta, Georgia, Tommy Knotts received an undergraduate degree from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, and his theological training at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas; and

Whereas, he married his beloved Jeanne McDougal in June of 1960, and together they raised three fine children, who have blessed them with four adoring grandchildren; and

Whereas, among many ministries, Reverend Knotts served his church as director of missions for the seventy‑three churches that comprise the Aiken Baptist Association from 1971 through 2002, on the Credentials Committee for the Southern Baptist Convention for over seventeen years, and as president of the Director of Missions Organizations for the Southern Baptist Convention; and

Whereas, he has served his community with distinction at a myriad of posts, most notably on a multidisciplinary committee for child abuse for the Department of Social Services of Aiken County for approximately fifteen years; and

Whereas, he was selected as the area chaplain for the South Carolina Association of Conservation Districts (SCACD) three times and as the association’s State Chaplain of the Year in 1995; and

Whereas, serving as the state chaplain for SCACD since 1996, he was responsible for overseeing the Annual Soil and Water Stewardship Week, which is observed in local churches around the State and successfully provides pertinent information to involve church members in the urgent work of conservation; and

Whereas, Reverend Knotts was elected the Aiken Soil and Water Conservation Commissioner in 1996 and continues to serve in that capacity, currently serving as district chairman; and

Whereas, since 1972, he has served as the Aiken Soil and Water Conservation District Chaplain and has conducted training for district chaplains at the state and regional meetings of the National Association of Conservation Districts; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge the exceptional contributions of Reverend Thomas Milton Knotts on behalf of our great State and his fellow man. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Reverend Thomas “Tommy” Milton Knotts, and commend him for his years of dedicated service to the South Carolina Association of Conservation Districts.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Thomas “Tommy” Milton Knotts.

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