**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE GEORGE M. MCFADDIN, JR., OF SUMTER COUNTY FOR HIS DEDICATED LABORS ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON BEING NAMED 2009 ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHILDREN’S FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD (FCRB), A DIVISION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR’S OFFICE.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives honor individuals who freely give of their time and resources for the good of others, especially those who need it most; and

Whereas, the Honorable George M. McFaddin, Jr., of Sumter County stands high among their number, much admired for his years of unceasing effort to make the Sumter area a better place to live for children and families; and

Whereas, since being elected to the Family Court of the Third Judicial Circuit in 2002, Judge McFaddin has proven himself a friend to children and families, as well as a supporter of child advocates; and

Whereas, a graduate of the University of South Carolina, this Sumter County native instituted “Adoption Days,” legal hearings that took place in his Family Court chambers that facilitated adoptions for a number of children around the State last year. Judge McFaddin decided to institute the biannual proceedings after noticing the backlog of cases for children awaiting consummation hearings. He invited representatives from the FCRB legal team, attorneys, and would‑be foster parents to come to Sumter to finalize the proceedings; and

Whereas, because of that initiative, twenty‑five children received permanent homes in 2008; and

Whereas, in addition to his Adoption Days, Judge McFaddin has served as chair to the Bench/Bar Committee, where he has worked toward strengthening the legal system’s representation of children and families. Recognizing the importance of permanence for these children, he has labored proactively and successfully to move some cases through the system; and

Whereas, in appreciation of his outstanding work on behalf of children and families, the South Carolina Children’s Foster Care Review Board, a division of the South Carolina Governor’s Office, has named Judge McFaddin 2009 Advocate of the Year, an award given to an individual who has been an unusual advocate for children; and

Whereas, this honor is a fitting tribute to a man with a high dedication to his calling equaling the eminence of the award, and the South Carolina House of Representatives is proud to add its collective voice to the many warm expressions of praise and gratitude so well deserved by Judge McFaddin. 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 commend the Honorable George M. McFaddin, Jr., of Sumter County for his dedicated labors on behalf of children and families, and congratulate him on being named 2009 Advocate of the Year by the South Carolina Children’s Foster Care Review Board (FCRB), a division of the South Carolina Governor’s Office.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable George M. McFaddin, Jr.

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