**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JUSTIN M. WHITMIRE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE PROFOUND APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

Whereas, with deep appreciation, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly honor, on behalf of all South Carolinians, the great sacrifice that the men and women of the United States Armed Forces make for the ideals of liberty and justice so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

Whereas, on December 27, 2011, at the age of 20, Private First Class Justin M. Whitmire gave his life near Paktia, Afghanistan, from wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device (IED); and

Whereas, assigned to the 720th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade out of Fort Hood, Texas, Private First Class Justin M. Whitmire answered his country’s call and deployed with his battalion to Afghanistan; and

Whereas, he left behind his devoted parents Jennifer Ann and Donald Craig Whitmire of Simpsonville; and

Whereas, there is no greater or braver sacrifice for a man to make for his country than to lay down his life; therefore, for his valor, Private First Class Justin M. Whitmire received the Palmetto Patriot Award from former Lieutenant Governor André Bauer; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is honored to remember the life and sacrifice of a brave son and hero of the Palmetto State, Private First Class Justin M. Whitmire. 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, honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Private First Class Justin M. Whitmire of the United States Army while he was serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan, and express to his family the profound appreciation of a grateful State and nation for his life, sacrifice, and service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Private First Class Justin M. Whitmire.

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