**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

COMMENDING THE HONORABLE ANDRE BAUER FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO WISH HIM WELL IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, Andre Bauer was inaugurated as South Carolina’s 85th Lieutenant Governor on January 15, 2003; and

Whereas, Lieutenant Governor Bauer will complete his second term in office on January 12, 2011; and

Whereas, he was born in Charleston, South Carolina on March 20, 1969, and is a graduate of Irmo High School and the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1996, Bauer gained a reputation for hard work and tireless constituent service. In 1999, he ran for the State Senate Seat in District 18 and was elected in a special election. He was re‑elected to the Senate in the 2000 general election and served until his inauguration as Lieutenant Governor; and

Whereas, as Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Bauer is in the unique position of being part of both the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch of state government. During his eight years of presiding over the Senate, Lt. Governor Bauer ruled nearly $1 billion in tax increases out of order, staying true to his conservative values while looking out for the best interests of all South Carolinians; and

Whereas, after assuming responsibility for thestate’s Office on Aging in 2004, now known as theLt. Governor’s Office on Aging, he aggressively pushed the “Geriatrics Loan Forgiveness Act” that created an incentive for physicians who specialize in geriatric medicine to stay in South Carolina for their medical practice. In 2006, the Lieutenant Governor helped secure $2.9 million to provide essential nutrition and transportation services to our most needy senior citizens; and

Whereas, Lt. Governor Bauer has maintained an open door policy in order to ensure a more accessible, hands‑on government for the benefit of the citizens of this State and has worked tirelessly towards making South Carolina a greater competitor in the global market. He often participated in economic development missions in an effort to increase economic growth opportunities for the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, his ongoing commitment to the needs of citizens is further evidenced by his strong support of military families and his endorsement of the South Carolina Military Family Relief Fund. This program offers financial assistance to reservist and guardsmen’s families when they are called to active duty; and

Whereas, Lt. Governor Bauer is a Lieutenant Colonel in the South Carolina Civil Air Patrol and is a member of the State Guard. In addition, Lt. Governor Bauer strongly supports law enforcement. While in the Senate, he completed a Reserve Deputy training class and became a State Constable; and

Whereas, he is a truly distinguished South Carolinian who has given most generously of his time and talents to the citizens of the Palmetto State for many years. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, commend the Honorable Andre Bauer for his many years of dedicated service to the General Assembly and the State of South Carolina and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Andre Bauer.

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