**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE “THE BLUES DOCTOR”, MR. DRINK SMALL OF LEE COUNTY, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS SEVENTY‑EIGHTH BIRTHDAY, AND HONOR HIM FOR OVER A HALF CENTURY OF ENRICHING AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORLD OF MUSIC.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to recognize Mr. Drink Small for his extraordinary achievements in the field of music as he reaches the milestone of seventy‑eight years; and

Whereas, born in the Hickory Hill district of Bishopville on January 28, 1933, Drink Small began performing in church at an early age and exhibited rare and natural talent at the piano and on the guitar; and

Whereas, he perfected his incomparable bass vocal style between “boogaloos” on Saturday nights and “hallelujahs” on Sunday mornings; and

Whereas, in 1956, he recorded his first record with The Spiritualaires on the nationally distributed Vee Jay label, and since then he has cut numerous blues and R & B recordings for Sharp Records and other labels, including his “I’m in Love with a Grandma” and “Charleston Woman”; and

Whereas, his recent and critically acclaimed CD, *Trying to Survive at 75*, proudly carries a song entitled “Bishopville Is My Hometown”; and

Whereas, in over fifty years as a professional musician, he has performed at music festivals all over North America, including the Chicago Blues Festival, New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the Smithsonian Folklore Festival, the Lowcountry Blues Bash, and the World’s Fair in Knoxville; and

Whereas, his rich bass voice and unique sound on the electric guitar have earned him such outstanding recognition as the South Carolina Folk Heritage Award, W. C. Handy Award nomination, and membership in the South Carolina Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the pride and recognition that Drink Small has brought to his hometown and to our State and wish him many more years of success and happiness upon his seventy‑eighth birthday. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize “The Blues Doctor”, Mr. Drink Small of Lee County, upon the occasion of his seventy‑eighth birthday, and honor him for over a half century of enriching and significant contributions to the world of music.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Drink Small.

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