**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC PROGRAM OF IRMO HIGH SCHOOL, AND TO CONGRATULATE THE CADETS, INSTRUCTORS, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR BEING NAMED THE 2011 OUTSTANDING AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC PROGRAM IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that the Air Force Junior ROTC of Irmo High School will be honored as the 2011 Outstanding Air Force Junior ROTC unit in the State of South Carolina by the Air Force Association for the second consecutive year on Saturday, April 30, 2011; and

Whereas, the Irmo High School program was chosen from forty‑two programs statewide for the third time in only four years to receive this award called the Sword of Excellence, which displays an Air Force officer’s sword mounted on a large, hanging plaque; and

Whereas, practicing three days a week every week of the school year with little recognition, the Irmo cadets routinely demonstrate their competitive military drilling skills at meets and in their summer program; and

Whereas, their concerns beyond themselves, however, mark these cadets for distinction in such activities as the cleaning of forty miles of highway each year for Adopt a Highway, support for the color guard needs of University of South Carolina athletic programs, and involvement in Special Olympics; and

Whereas, the unit manages one of the largest summertime training programs in the nation at The Citadel and the only international cadet exchange involving Air Force Junior ROTC cadets; and

Whereas, in an exceptional display of patriotism, these cadets raised five thousand dollars last year to support Honor Flight, and they have presented a Saber Line to greet every one of the ten flights of World War II veterans returning from the nation’s capital on Honor Flights at the Columbia airport; and

Whereas, using their own military skill and training, Colonel Jay Seward and Chief Master Sergeant Steve Turner have forged a championship Junior ROTC program and have taught these cadets lessons that will prove invaluable to them throughout life; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing the cadets of the Irmo High School Air Force Junior ROTC program for being named the recipients of this honor and look forward to hearing of their continued accomplishments. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Air Force Junior ROTC program of Irmo High School, and congratulate the cadets, instructors, and school officials for being named the 2011 Outstanding Air Force Junior ROTC program in the State of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Irmo High School Principal Rob Weinkle and Colonel Jay Seward of the Air Force Junior ROTC program.

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