**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SAMUEL ROBERT CLARK, PRINCIPAL OF ALSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Samuel Robert “Sam” Clark will begin a much‑deserved retirement on June 30, 2011, after thirty‑eight years as an educator; and

Whereas, born in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on February 4, 1951, Sam Clark grew up in a military family that prepared him for his life as an educator as he learned flexibility, courage, perseverance, and respect for all cultures; and

Whereas, he played football at The Citadel and graduated with a degree in history in 1973; and

Whereas, he began his teaching career in Georgia and two years later moved to Chester High School where he taught history and government and served as the assistant football coach and head wrestling coach, while he completed work for a master’s degree in teaching at Winthrop University in 1977; and

Whereas, before his arrival in Summerville, he transferred to Northwestern High School in Rock Hill in 1977 where he served in the same capacities; and

Whereas, from 1979 to 1991, “Superman,” as he is affectionately dubbed, served as assistant principal of Summerville High School and as the school’s assistant coach for Greenwave football; and

Whereas, for the last twenty years he has served at Alston Middle School, first as the assistant principal from 1991 to 1995, and then as principal, and he found time to take more than thirty hours of graduate courses in administration from The Citadel; and

Whereas, under his leadership, Alston Middle School was named a Middle School of Excellence and an Education Showcase School and earned the Red Carpet Award twice, the Palmetto Silver Award for Academic Success four times, and a million‑dollar United States Department of Education Fine Arts Grant; and

Whereas, Sam Clark was named Teacher of the Year at Summerville High School in 1981 and 1982, the Rotary Club’s Paul Harris Fellow, and the Parent Teacher School Association’s South Carolina Principal of the Year; and

Whereas, a deacon at Summerville Baptist Church, he serves as the chairman of the Baptist Child Development Board, and he served as a sponsor of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and

Whereas, he served his community on the advisory board of the Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union, on the board of the Summerville Community Orchestra and Summerville Dream, and in The Citadel Brigadier Club, the Rotary Club, and Gideon; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife of thirty‑eight years, Donna L. Clark, also an educator, he reared two fine daughters, Dana Howard and Katie Clenshaw; and he and his wife plan to retire together in June 2011; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the dedication that Samuel Robert Clark has given to the education of South Carolina’s children over the last thirty‑two years and wish him much fulfillment in his well‑earned retirement. 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 honor Samuel Robert Clark, principal of Alston Middle School, upon the occasion of his retirement, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Samuel Robert Clark.

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