**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THE SUPREME SACRIFICE MADE BY STAFF SERGEANT VINCENT W. ASHLOCK OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHILE HE WAS SERVING A TOUR OF MILITARY DUTY IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO EXPRESS TO HIS FAMILY THE DEEPEST APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION FOR HIS LIFE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

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

Whereas, Staff Sergeant Vincent W. Ashlock of the United States Army stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by their country; and

Whereas, as a committed serviceman, Staff Sergeant Vincent W. Ashlock was assigned to the 890th Engineer Battalion, 168th Engineer Brigade, Army National Guard, Lucedale, Mississippi. Answering the call of his country, he left his family and home to serve abroad as a part of the war on terror. His first tour of duty, already completed, had taken him to Iraq; for this second tour, he was deployed to Afghanistan; and

Whereas, Staff Sergeant Ashlock, a longtime soldier with the National Guard, also had fought in the first Persian Gulf War; and

Whereas, on December 4, 2010, at the age of forty‑five, Staff Sergeant Ashlock lost his life for the cause of freedom, dying in a noncombat‑related incident in Khost Province, Afghanistan; and

Whereas, there is no greater or more courageous sacrifice a man can make than to lay down his life for a noble cause, as Staff Sergeant Vincent W. Ashlock has done, and to honor his valor, Staff Sergeant Ashlock has been named a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor’s Palmetto Patriot Award, given by former Lieutenant Governor André Bauer; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly counts it a great privilege to remember Staff Sergeant Vincent W. Ashlock, and the members with one voice offer their grateful thanks to Almighty God for the service and ultimate sacrifice of this heroic son of liberty. 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 Staff Sergeant Vincent W. Ashlock of the United States Army while he was serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan, and express to his family the deepest 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 Staff Sergeant Vincent W. Ashlock.

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