**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO PROMOTE MAJOR GENERAL STANHOPE S. SPEARS TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD EFFECTIVE JANUARY 11, 2011.

Whereas, Major General Stanhope S. Spears has served his State and nation with loyalty, dedication, and distinction for over fifty years as a commissioned officer of the South Carolina Army National Guard and enlisted airman in the South Carolina Air National Guard; and

Whereas, General Spears has served the people of the State of South Carolina with great zeal and diligence in numerous and various military capacities, including as a company commander, battalion commander, troop commander, assistant adjutant general, and commandant of Palmetto Military Academy, the state’s officer candidate school; and

Whereas, General Spears has been the deserving recipient of numerous military awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Governor’s Unit Citation, the South Carolina Active State Service Medal, and the Order of Saint Barbara; and

Whereas, General Spears’ leadership attributes are equally known in the civilian community where he was a starting quarterback for the University of South Carolina, President of the National Guard Association of South Carolina, and he held numerous positions in the insurance industry; and

Whereas, for sixteen years General Spears held the highest military position in this State, that of the Adjutant General, a constitutional office to which he was popularly elected on four separate occasions by his fellow South Carolinians. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Major General Spears is promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General of the South Carolina Army National Guard effective January 11, 2011.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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