**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR W. PATRICK “PAT” EARLE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE NATIONAL TEACHERS HALL OF FAME.

Whereas, with great pleasure the members of the South Carolina General Assembly learn that W. Patrick “Pat” Earle will be honored at McBee High School on April 12, 2011, for being one of only five teachers nationwide inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in 2011; and

Whereas, born in Hartsville on June 12, 1956, he is the son of E. B. and Sara Earle, and after graduating from McBee High School in 1974, he earned an associate’s degree from Wingate University in 1976 and a bachelor’s degree in agricultural education in 1978 and a master’s degree in animal science in 1980, both from Clemson University; and

Whereas, a thirty‑year veteran educator, he began his teaching career at Florence Darlington Technical College in 1980 and chaired the agronomy department there from 1983 to 1987; and

Whereas, continuing the legacy of his father who taught agriculture at McBee High School for forty‑one years, Pat Earle began teaching at his alma mater in 1987 so that the school has enjoyed the teaching skills of the Earle family for a total of sixty‑five years; and

Whereas, only the second teacher from South Carolina to be inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame, he is the sole instructor in the agriculture‑education program at McBee High School, managing a diversified curriculum which appeals to a wide spectrum of students; and

Whereas, he is a past Teacher of the Year at McBee, a finalist in the National Rural Education Recognition Program, and an Outstanding Agricultural Educator in South Carolina and the Southern states, and he holds an honorary degree from the Future Farmers of America; and

Whereas, a life‑long member of McBee Baptist Church, he served as a church deacon for years and currently serves as Sunday school secretary, and he sponsors several Eagle Scout projects for Chesterfield County; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, Vicky, he reared twins Jason and Amanda, who have blessed them with four adoring grandchildren; and

Whereas, founded in 1989, the National Teachers Hall of Fame honors the teaching profession and elementary and secondary teachers with at least twenty years of experience through a recognition program that evaluates nominees regarding their professional profiles, teaching inside and outside the classroom, educational issues, and accountability; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are grateful for the standard of excellence that Pat Earle has set as an educator and for the outstanding service he has provided for students of the Palmetto State. 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, recognize and honor W. Patrick “Pat” Earle for his contributions to education in the State of South Carolina, and congratulate him for his induction into the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to W. Patrick “Pat” Earle.

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