**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MAJOR GENERAL CORNELL WILSON AS AN OUTSTANDING SOLDIER AND CITIZEN AND TO WELCOME HIM AS HE ADDRESSES THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE IN HARTSVILLE ON JANUARY 21, 2013.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that Major General Cornell Wilson will address the Martin Luther King, Jr., commemorative service on January 21, 2013, at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Hartsville, sponsored by Hartsville’s People to People; and

Whereas, promoting racial harmony and unity in the community, People to People initiates, encourages, and cooperates in efforts to promote multiracial and multiethnic understanding and interaction by drawing together individuals, agencies, and organizations committed to working for the betterment of the entire community; and

Whereas, a native of Hartsville and the son of Veronica and Cornell Wilson, Sr., General Wilson graduated from Butler High School and earned a bachelor’s in chemistry in 1972 from the University of South Carolina on an NROTC scholarship; and

Whereas, after graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and assigned to The Basic School (TBS) at Quantico, Virginia; and

Whereas, he served on active duty for ten years, assigned to 1st Marine Division Tank Platoon, to the USS Inchon, to Quantico as an advanced tactics instructor for TBS, to 2nd Marine Division’s 2nd Tank Battalion, all before leaving active service in 1982; and

Whereas, as a Reserve officer, he served on the Maintenance Battalion staff in Charlotte, North Carolina, before taking command of the Communications Company in Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1985. He subsequently served in Marietta, Georgia, on the H&S Battalion staff, first as the battalion operations officer and executive officer and later as the battalion commander; and

Whereas, in 1993, General Wilson became the executive officer for the 25th Marine Regiment in Worcester, Massachusetts, and then served as the depot inspector for MCRD Parris Island and as the II MACE G‑4, before taking command of 4th Supply Battalion in Newport News, Virginia, where he was selected for brigadier general in 1999; and

Whereas, his first assignment as a general officer was as the deputy commander for MARCENT at U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Florida, then as the commanding general, 4th FSSG in New Orleans, Louisiana, and later as commander of the Augmentation Command Element of the Second Marine Expeditionary Force; and

Whereas, in 2002, General Wilson was selected for major general and was activated as the deputy J‑3 for Central Command in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and then he commanded the Combined Joint Task Force Consequence Management (C/JTF‑CM), headquartered in Camp Doha, Kuwait; and

Whereas, in 2004, he assumed command of 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and in 2005, he was assigned as the director, Reserve Affairs Division, Manpower & Reserve Affairs at Headquarters Marine Corps in Quantico. In 2007, Major General Wilson was assigned as commanding general for United States Marine Corps Forces Europe and United States Marine Corps Forces Africa in Stuttgart, Germany, as deputy commander for United States Marine Corps Forces Command in 2008, and as commander of United States Marine Corps Forces South in 2009, retiring in 2010; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the pride and recognition that Major General Cornell Wilson has brought to his hometown and to the Palmetto State, and for the extraordinary military service he has rendered to our nation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Major General Cornell Wilson as an outstanding soldier and citizen, and welcome him as he addresses the Martin Luther King, Jr., commemorative service in Hartsville on January 21, 2013.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Major General Cornell Wilson.

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