**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR CECIL BELL OF CHEROKEE COUNTY FOR FIFTY YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE AS A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives honors those individuals who serve tirelessly to ensure the safety of our citizens. Cecil Bell of Cherokee County stands among their number as an exceptional firefighter, one much admired by colleagues and area residents alike; and

Whereas, having served with the Blacksburg Volunteer Fire Department for forty‑seven years, Mr. Bell began service with the C.K.C. Volunteer Fire Department three years ago. During his half century as a firefighter, he has served as assistant chief, captain, cashier, and safety officer, and his son, Mike Bell, has volunteered beside his father in the fire service for twenty‑nine years; and

Whereas, a current holder of South Carolina Firefighter II, Emergency Medical Responder, Hazmat, and other certifications, this Blacksburg native was instrumental in having the first county‑run ambulance stationed in Blacksburg (1976) and also served as an emergency medical technician; and

Whereas, away from the fire house, Cecil Bell, who retired from Timken of Gaffney after thirty‑three years, works part‑time at Gordon Mortuary, where he has been employed since 1991. From 1966 to 1972, he served in the South Carolina Army National Guard; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the admirable service Cecil Bell has steadfastly given as an outstanding firefighter since 1964. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate and honor Cecil Bell of Cherokee County for fifty years of selfless service as a volunteer firefighter.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Cecil Bell.

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