**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR CLAIRE THOMPSON UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AFTER OVER TWENTY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS PRINCIPAL OF LAKE MURRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that Claire Thompson will begin a well‑deserved retirement on June 30, 2018, after more than thirty‑five years as an educator; and

Whereas, Claire Thompson spent twenty‑seven of her thirty‑five years as an educator in District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties. She has been the only principal of Lake Murray Elementary School, having served in the role since the institution’s opening in 1997; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, master’s in early childhood education, and her educational leadership and administration certification from the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, before the opening of Lake Murray Elementary School, she served as principal of Chapin Elementary School for three years; and

Whereas, in 2015, she was named South Carolina Association of School Administrators Principal of the Year for the elementary school level. She also was named a 2015 National Distinguished Principal by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP); and

Whereas, School District Five Superintendent Dr. Stephen Heffner describes her tenure, “under her leadership, the students have achieved at the highest levels, her teachers have earned State and national honors…and all of this is a direct reflection of her steady, consistent, and exceptional leadership;” and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are grateful for the years of dedication that Claire has devoted to providing children with a stellar education and wish her many years of enjoyment in her well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor Claire Thompson upon the occasion of her retirement after over twenty years of outstanding service as principal of Lake Murray Elementary School and wish her continued success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Claire Thompson.

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