**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JUDGE A. E. “GENE” MOREHEAD III, FAMILY COURT JUDGE FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS THE LONGEST SERVING FAMILY COURT JUDGE IN THE STATE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly have learned that on December 31, 2018, Judge A. E. “Gene” Morehead III began a well‑deserved retirement after more than thirty-three years as a member of the South Carolina judiciary, serving most of that time as a highly regarded family court judge in the Twelfth Judicial District; and

Whereas, born in Columbia, he is the son of the late Nelle Lipscomb Morehead and the late A. E. “Buddy” Morehead, Jr., and he was reared in Newberry, graduating from Newberry High School; and

Whereas, Judge Morehead earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from The Citadel in 1968, and in the process was a class officer his junior and senior years, was on battalion staff and the Honor Committee, lettered in football and baseball, and graduated as a Distinguished Military Student with academic honors. He then served as an officer in the United States Army for two years; and

Whereas, in 1973, he earned a juris doctor with honors from the University of South Carolina School of Law and was inducted into the Order of Wig and Robe. He first practiced law with Nelson, Mullins, Grier, and Scarborough in Columbia until 1976, when he moved to Florence to form the firm of Swearingen and Morehead with his brother‑in‑law; and

Whereas, Judge Morehead assumed his duties as a Family Court Judge for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in June, 1985, a position he would hold until his retirement, except for two occasions on which he served as an acting judge on the South Carolina Court of Appeals, for terms in 2000 and 2003; and

Whereas, he served as president of the Family Court Judges Association, on the Governor’s Juvenile Justice Task Force, and as chairman of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit Youth Council. He also served on the Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization for eight years, and was appointed by the chief justice to serve as chair of the Family Court Judges’ Advisory Committee; and

Whereas, active in his community, he volunteered with the American Legion Palmetto Boys State program since 1963, including seventeen years as its director, served on the board of directors of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame, was president of the Florence Kiwanis Club, and was active in community theatre on stage and behind the scenes; and

Whereas, a devoted member of St. Anthony’s Roman Catholic Church, Judge Morehead has served as a cantor, on the parish council, as chairman of the school board, and under two bishops on the Diocesan Pastoral Council; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, the former Elaine Dempsey of Orangeburg, he raised two fine children, Arthur and Anne Meree, and is the grandfather of five grandchildren: Ben, Laura, Max, Emi, and Hunter; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is grateful for the years of unparalleled dedication that Gene Morehead has devoted to serving the families of our great State, and the members wish him many years of joy in his well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Judge A. E. “Gene” Morehead III, Family Court Judge for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, upon the occasion of his retirement as the longest serving family court judge in the State, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Judge A. E. “Gene” Morehead III.

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