**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF FORMER SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE MEMBER EARL M. MIDDLETON OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY.

Whereas, born in Orangeburg to Ella Govan and Samuel Edgar Middleton, Earl M. Middleton attended Claflin from grade school through college and received his bachelor’s degree in sociology in 1942. There he played football, served as class president for four years, and was a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity; and

Whereas, at the beginning of World War II, he trained with the famed Tuskegee Airmen in Alabama. He finished his military service in the South Pacific, witnessing a portion of the Japanese surrender at war’s end; and

Whereas, returning to Orangeburg, Earl Middleton married his childhood sweetheart, Bernice Bryant, and began an entrepreneurial career with his ownership of Coldwell Banker Middleton and Associates Realtors and the Middleton Insurance Agency; and

Whereas, a lifelong member of Trinity United Methodist Church, he was also a Boy Scouts of America Scoutmaster and recipient of the Silver Beaver Award. He belonged to the Orangeburg Kiwanis Club, served on the Board of Trustees at Middleton Place Foundation in Charleston, and was a life member of the NAACP. He served as the first commander of VFW Post 8166; and

Whereas, from 1975 to 1984, Earl Middleton served in the South Carolina General Assembly as a House member from District 95 in Orangeburg County. This well‑respected son of South Carolina passed away at the venerable age of eighty‑eight in 2007. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the life and achievements of former South Carolina House member Earl M. Middleton of Orangeburg County.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of the Honorable Earl M. Middleton.

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