**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE P. MICHAEL “MIKE” FORRESTER OF SPARTANBURG COUNTY FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON BEHALF OF HIS CONSTITUENTS OF DISTRICT 34 AND THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO OFFER HIM BEST WISHES FOR A SATISFYING AND REWARDING RETIREMENT.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives learned with sincere regret that the Honorable Mike Forrester will depart from the House of Representatives at the conclusion of his current term; and

Whereas, born in Spartanburg on February 5, 1951, he is the son of Peggy Jarrell and Paul Davis Forrester, and he earned a bachelor’s degree from the State University of New York; and

Whereas, in the patriotic tradition of a Palmetto son, Representative Forrester served in the United States Army Reserve, attaining the rank of Command Sergeant Major; and

Whereas, on July 13, 1969, Mike Forrester married his beloved wife, Connie Carnes, and together they reared two fine children, Brian Michael and Melissa Bishop, and when away from his duties in the House of Representatives, he works in economic development; and

Whereas, committed to the welfare of his community, he serves as the chairman of the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce, the Economic Growth Council in Spartanburg, the Economic Futures Group’s board in Spartanburg, and the Action Team for Spartanburg/Cherokee Development Corporation; and

Whereas, Representative Forrester serves as vice president of South Carolina Operations Piedmont Natural Gas Company, as chairman of the State Board of Education and of the Upstate South Carolina Alliance, and as a member of the Executive Committee Ten at the Top, the State Workforce Investment Board, the Professional Development Committee of South Carolina, the Economic Development Association, and the Public Utility Review Committee; and

Whereas, his many honors in recognition of his outstanding and extensive public service include several awards in 2010: the Public Service Award from the Summit in Support of Education, the Citizens for Sound Conservation’s Peas and Carrots Award, South Carolina Chamber’s Business Advocate Award, and the Sword and Mace Award from the Business and Industry Political Education Committee; and

Whereas, Representative Forrester has faithfully served the citizens of Spartanburg County’s District 34 in the House of Representatives since 2009. In his final session, he has served as first vice chairman on the Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee and on the Regulations and Administrative Procedures Committee; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives will miss the thoughtful and in‑depth service that Mike Forrester, their friend and colleague, has given to the House of Representatives, and hope that he will enjoy deep fulfillment in the years to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend the Honorable P. Michael “Mike” Forrester of Spartanburg County for his dedicated service in the House of Representatives on behalf of his constituents of District 34 and the citizens of South Carolina and offer him best wishes for a satisfying and rewarding retirement.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable P. Michael “Mike” Forrester.

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