**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND J. STROM THURMOND, JR., ON TWELVE SUCCESSFUL YEARS AS SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SOLICITOR ON THE OCCASION OF HIS DEPARTURE FROM PUBLIC OFFICE, TO EXTEND DEEP APPRECIATION FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF AIKEN, BAMBERG, AND BARNWELL COUNTIES, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH CONTINUED SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN HIS NEW ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, for twelve years, the Second Judicial Circuit has enjoyed the benefit of the dedication, experience, and leadership of J. Strom Thurmond, Jr., who will not seek a fourth term following the end of his term as solicitor in January 2021 but will return to the private practice of law; and

Whereas, a son of the legendary Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, Aiken native J. Strom Thurmond, Jr., received his bachelor’s degree from the University of South Carolina (1995) and his law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law (1998); and

Whereas, his career has included both private practice and public service. From 1998 to 2001, the young J. Strom, Jr., served as an assistant prosecutor in the Second Judicial Circuit, based in Aiken. In November 2001, he was sworn in as U.S. attorney for the State of South Carolina, being the nation’s youngest U.S. attorney when he assumed office. He had tried seven cases by himself as an assistant Aiken solicitor and had practiced law for three years when he was nominated for U.S. attorney. During his time as the state’s chief federal prosecutor, he presided over the successful prosecution of two defendants in a kidnapping and death case and prosecuted several environmental polluters. In addition, he oversaw the creation in Charleston of a model to protect naval ports from terrorism and hired about one‑fifth of the prosecutorial staff of the U.S. Attorney’s Office; and

Whereas, in 2005, having resigned his position as U.S. attorney, Mr. Thurmond returned to private practice. Elected Second Judicial Circuit Solicitor in 2008, he has continually served in that post since he took office and will continue to serve until the end of his present term in January 2021; and

Whereas, J. Strom Thurmond, Jr., finds strength for his labors in the support of his family: his lovely wife of twenty‑two years, the former Heather Holland; and the couple’s two fine sons, J. Strom Thurmond III and Field Thurmond; and

Whereas, appreciative of the commitment and leadership J. Strom Thurmond, Jr., has bestowed on the people of this great State, particularly those of Aiken, Bamberg, and Barnwell counties, the House takes great pleasure in wishing him all the best as he pursues new interests in the days ahead. 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 commend J. Strom Thurmond, Jr., on twelve successful years as Second Judicial Circuit Solicitor on the occasion of his departure from public office, extend deep appreciation for his distinguished service to the people of Aiken, Bamberg, and Barnwell counties, and wish him much continued success and fulfillment in his new endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to J. Strom Thurmond, Jr.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑