**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR HENRY M. LAYE III, DIRECTOR OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS OF SPARTANBURG COUNTY, UPON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER FOURTEEN YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the South Carolina House of Representatives should pause in its deliberations to express gratitude to Henry M. Laye III for his significant contributions to Voter Registration and Elections of Spartanburg County; and

Whereas, after graduation from Seneca High School, Mr. Laye earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from The Citadel in 1967 and completed the Leadership Spartanburg and Leadership South Carolina programs; and

Whereas, he served with distinction in the United States Army as a Platoon Leader and Battery Commander in Air Defense Artillery from 1968 to 1973, leaving active service as a captain; and

Whereas, in 1973, Mr. Laye began a thirty‑three year career with Milliken & Company, where he served as a production department manager in Barnwell, a senior buyer in purchasing in Spartanburg, and a Pursuit of Excellence director for the Greige Fine Goods Division. He worked directly for Mr. Milliken as project liaison for the Greenville‑Spartanburg International Airport Expansion; and

Whereas, he also served as the co‑chair of the 1989 Malcolm Baldridge National Quality Award Application, with property development and real estate sales at Carolina Country Club, and as senior account manager for Performance Knit Sales; and

Whereas, deeply involved in his community through the years, Mr. Laye has been a member of the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce, a member and co‑chair of Spartanburg Downtown Development Council, chair of Junior Leadership Spartanburg, a member of the Spartanburg Board of Realtors, a youth baseball coach, and a leader of Cub Scout Webelos; and

Whereas, a devout Christian, he is an active member of Second Presbyterian Church in Spartanburg. He formerly served as a deacon and an elder at Westminster Presbyterian Church; and

Whereas, since 2007, Mr. Laye has used his business acumen developed at Milliken to take the staff and office operations of the Voter Registration and Elections of Spartanburg County to a high level of organization and efficiency, even through some very difficult elections; and

Whereas, he always remained fair and impartial, maintaining a sense of confidence within the office, and as chairman of the Voter Registration and Election Commission, he has been responsive to any concerns or questions that would arise; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, the late Alston Laye, Mr. Laye reared two fine children, Claire Abel and Will Laye; and

Whereas, grateful for his distinguished service to Voter Registration and Elections of Spartanburg County, the South Carolina House of Representatives takes great pleasure in extending best wishes to Henry Laye as he begins his richly deserved retirement on June 30, 2021, and the unhurried pace of 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, recognize and honor Henry M. Laye III, director of Voter Registration and Elections of Spartanburg County, upon his retirement after fourteen years of exemplary service, 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 Henry M. Laye III.

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