**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE PAT G. SMITH, AGENCY DIRECTOR OF WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL, UPON THE OCCASION OF THE SCHOOL’S ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY, TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS FORTY-SIX YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Whereas, upon the occasion of the school’s one-hundredth anniversary, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize Pat G. Smith for his many years of dedicated work as the Agency Director of Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School; and

Whereas, the first South Carolina Opportunity Schools were founded in 1921 by Dr. Wil Lou Gray. Currently, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School in West Columbia is an alternative military‑style school whose mission is to serve those citizens of South Carolina between sixteen and nineteen years of age who are at‑risk; and

Whereas, a native of Springdale, Mr. Smith is an alumnus of Anderson College, Newberry College, and the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, a civic leader, Mr. Smith has served as mayor of the town of Springdale, president of the South Carolina Association of Regional Councils, president of the Lexington County Municipal Association, and as a board member for many other community organizations; and

Whereas, over the years, Mr. Smith has received a number of honors and awards, including the Richard M. Kuffel Award for Excellence in Education and the Order of the Palmetto, which is South Carolina’s highest civilian honor presented in recognition of a lifetime of extraordinary achievement, service, and contributions on a national or statewide scale; and

Whereas, Mr. Smith is married to Rosalie Smith, and he adores his two nieces; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate greatly appreciate Mr. Smith’s passion and dedication for serving the people and the State of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Pat G. Smith, Agency Director of Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, upon the occasion of the school’s one-hundredth anniversary, commend him for his forty-six years of dedicated service to the school, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in the years ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Pat G. Smith.

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