**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BRIGADIER GENERAL STEPHEN M. TWITTY OF THE U.S. ARMY UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS PROMOTION TO BRIGADIER GENERAL, TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED MILITARY SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, few things afford keener pleasure to the South Carolina General Assembly than recognizing the selfless labors of this great State’s dedicated public servants; and

Whereas, Brigadier General Stephen M. Twitty, a native of Chesnee in Spartanburg County and chief of staff for Third Army/U.S. Army Central Command at Fort McPherson, Georgia, ranks high in their distinguished company as a long‑respected military leader; and

Whereas, while growing up and receiving his early academic education in Chesnee, young Stephen gained critical education of another kind as he internalized the solid values taught consistently by his parents, Bobby and Belinda Twitty. After finishing South Carolina State University as a distinguished military graduate, in further preparation for his life’s work Stephen Twitty earned a master of science in public administration from Central Michigan University and a master of science in national security strategy from the National Defense University; and

Whereas, in 1985, he began an illustrious military career that now has spanned twenty‑five years and numerous duty assignments. Beginning as a rifle platoon leader, scout platoon leader, and Battalion S‑3 Air at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, he steadily moved up the ranks; and

Whereas, stateside posts have included service as aide‑de‑camp to the commanding general and B company commander at Fort Stewart, Georgia, a joint chiefs of staff intern in the Directorate for Strategic Plans and Policy at the Pentagon, speechwriter to the Army G3, and executive officer to the deputy commander general of U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs; and

Whereas, following his completion of Command and General Staff College, Brigadier General Twitty, then a colonel, served in Heidelberg, Germany, as a G3 operations officer with V Corps. Other foreign deployments include service in Mons, Belgium, at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe as the aide‑de‑camp to the supreme allied commander Europe and commander in chief U.S. European Command. He fought in Operation Desert Storm and, more recently, in Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he led the initial attack into the city of Baghdad and became the only African American to earn the Silver Star Medal, our nation’s third‑highest military award for valor, during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

Whereas, for his military accomplishments, he holds many other decorations and awards, among them the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Commendation Medals, and the Army Commendation Medal; and

Whereas, a man of faith, Brigadier General Twitty gives full credit to God for sustaining him throughout his career, as well as to his wife, Karen; his daughters, Ashley and Brooke; and the men who have served under him for their strong support of his work; and

Whereas, having experienced a career filled with extraordinary accomplishments that would take many men two lifetimes to achieve, Brigadier General Twitty well deserves the encomium this General Assembly now extends to him. The members offer their heartiest congratulations on his promotion of November 20, 2009, to brigadier general, grateful thanks for his service to this State and our great country, and sincere wishes for many years of successful service to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Brigadier General Stephen M. Twitty of the U.S. Army upon the occasion of his promotion to brigadier general, commend him for his many years of dedicated military service, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Brigadier General Stephen M. Twitty.

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