**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 77 FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH FAIRFIELD/RICHLAND COUNTY LINE TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE FAIRFIELD/CHESTER COUNTY LINE “JOHN M. SPRATT, JR., FREEWAY” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS PORTION OF HIGHWAY THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “JOHN M. SPRATT, JR., FREEWAY”.

Whereas, the Honorable John M. Spratt, Jr., of York County for twenty‑eight years faithfully represented the citizens of South Carolina’s 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

Whereas, John Spratt grew up in York, where he still lives. He graduated from York High School and Davidson College. At both schools, he was president of the student body. He won a Marshall Scholarship to Oxford University and earned a law degree from Yale University. A true patriot, he served as a captain in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1971 and was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal; and

Whereas, in 1971, he came home to practice law. He was county and school district attorney, president of the Bank of Fort Mill, and owner of a farm and small insurance agency. Active in his community, he was an elder at First Presbyterian Church, president of the Chamber of Commerce and United Way, and chairman of the board of Divine Saviour Hospital; and

Whereas, first elected to Congress in 1982, John Spratt served as chairman of the House Budget Committee and as a negotiator of the Balanced Budget Agreement of 1997. He also was the second‑ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee. In addition, he co‑chaired the Textile Caucus, the Bearing Caucus, and the Nuclear Energy Caucus; and

Whereas, his dedicated labors on behalf of the people of the Palmetto State did not go unnoticed. The *State* newspaper called him “a bridge‑builder who can reach across party lines.” *National Journal* featured him on its cover as “a stand‑out” in Congress, comparing his legislative skills to the “best infielders in baseball.” In *Washingtonian* magazine’s survey, Congressional staff voted him a “Workhorse” and “House Member I’d Like to See Win the Presidency in 2008”; and

Whereas, John Spratt finds strength and strong support in his work from his beloved wife of almost forty‑three years, the former Jane Stacy. Together, they raised three children, daughters who have blessed their parents with five grandchildren; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper to forever celebrate the legacy of Congressman Spratt by naming a portion of Interstate Highway 77 in his honor. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly request that the Department of Transportation name the portion of Interstate Highway 77 from its intersection with the Fairfield/Richland County line to its intersection with the Fairfield/Chester County line “John M. Spratt, Jr., Freeway” and erect appropriate markers or signs along this portion of highway that contain the words “John M. Spratt, Jr., Freeway”.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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