**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE RACHEL REYNOLDS ON HER GRADUATION FROM SUMMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, TO COMMEND HER FOR HER COURAGE, AND TO WISH HER THE RICHEST BLESSINGS OF GOD IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, in the face of sudden, unexpected, and serious health challenges, Rachel Reynolds of Dorchester County has had her courage and faith strongly tested. Her response to these challenges has proven that both courage and faith are firmly grounded in her; and

Whereas, as a result, Rachel, the daughter of Julie and Marvin Reynolds and sister of Joshua, Jacob, and James, has been an inspiration to all who have watched her go through her trial with grace; and

Whereas, one of the things that has kept Rachel grounded over the past few months is her lifelong love for animals, from backyard lizards and pond turtles to the family’s dog and four horses. On one occasion, she had her parents call the fire department to rescue a stray cat in a backyard tree. The department responded in full gear, climbed the tree, and rescued the animal. Having brought it down safely, they handed it to Rachel, saying, “Here is your cat.” Her parents declared it was not theirs, but fourteen years later, they still have that cat, which Rachel appropriately named Climber; and

Whereas, her present story begins on January 17, 2014, when the seventeen‑year‑old Summerville High School senior went to the doctor because she had been having pain for about three weeks. She was diagnosed as having a very rare bone cancer that had spread throughout her body. A difficult time began that day for Rachel and her close‑knit family; and

Whereas, with courage, peace, and a plan, the family began to learn to cope with Rachel’s condition and found that the process brought them closer to one another and to God; and

Whereas, in early March of this year, Preston Giet, assistant principal at Summerville High, visited Rachel and asked her what he as her assistant principal could do for her. Her first heart’s desire was to graduate from Summerville High School, where she had been attending the vocational school for health sciences. Accordingly, on Friday, March 14, 2014, Rachel was formally presented with her long‑awaited high school diploma; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly rejoices with Rachel in the receiving of her high school diploma, and the members with one voice offer their grateful thanks to God for the fine example of courage and determination demonstrated by this daughter of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Rachel Reynolds on her graduation from Summerville High School, commend her for her courage, and pray for her the richest blessings of God in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Rachel Reynolds.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑