**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HONORABLE RICHARD WILSON “DICK” RILEY FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED AND LIFELONG SERVICE TO OUR STATE AND OUR NATION.

Whereas, born in Greenville on January 2, 1933, Richard Riley is the son of Edwin P. Riley and Martha Dixon Riley, and he graduated cum laude from Furman University in 1954; and

Whereas, by 1959, he had earned a juris doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law, after serving with distinction as an officer on a United States Navy minesweeper; and

Whereas, in the South Carolina House of Representatives, he served from 1963 to 1966 and in the South Carolina Senate from 1967 to 1977 before being elected governor in 1978; and

Whereas, after the South Carolina constitution was amended during his first term to allow governors to serve two terms, Governor Riley was re‑elected in 1982, a tenure that won him national recognition for his highly successful effort to increase funding for and improve education; and

Whereas, in 1993, President Bill Clinton appointed him to his Cabinet as secretary of education, a post he held until 2001; and

Whereas, since then, he has served as a senior partner in the law firm of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP, and as a board member of the Albert Shanker Institute; and

Whereas, in 2007, he served as a campaign co‑chair for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign, and he is currently a distinguished professor at Furman University, where he serves as advisory board chair of the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics and Public Leadership created in 1999; and

Whereas, one of the nation’s premier centers for education renewal because of its emphasis on engaging students in the various arenas of politics, public policy, and public leadership, the Riley Institute is a multi‑faceted, non‑partisan institute associated with the Department of Political Science at Furman University; and

Whereas, in 2000, Winthrop University renamed its college of education after him, and in 2008, Walden University renamed its college of education the Richard W. Riley College of Education and Leadership, in honor of his “commitment to students, his legacy of improving access to higher education, and his focus on diversity in education”; and

Whereas, he serves as an honorary co‑chair for the World Justice Project which works to lead a global, multidisciplinary effort to strengthen the rule of law for the development of communities of opportunity and equity; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, the late Ann Osteen “Tunky” Yarborough, they reared three sons and one daughter, who blessed them with ten fine grandchildren; and

Whereas, many Americans regard Dick Riley as “one of the great statesmen of education in this century,” and *Time* magazine named him one of the top ten Cabinet members of the 20th century; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly appreciate the respect that Dick Riley has brought to the Palmetto State as a result of his integrity, principled leadership, commitment to children, and passion for education. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and commend the Honorable Richard Wilson “Dick” Riley for his distinguished and lifelong service to our State and our nation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable Richard Wilson Riley.

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