**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THOSE WHO STOOD GUARD BOTH IN THE UNIFORMED AND COVERT SERVICES DURING THE COLD WAR ERA, TO RECOGNIZE THE VICTORY OF FREEDOM OVER COMMUNISM IN MANY NATIONS AS A RESULT OF THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE COLD WAR, AND TO JOIN THE STATES OF KANSAS AND MAINE IN OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZING THE FIRST DAY OF MAY AS “COLD WAR VICTORY DAY”.”

Whereas, millions of American men and women served in uniform and in clandestine service agencies, tasked with defending the United States and its allies during the Cold War, in an undeclared conflict that lasted from 1945 to 1991, often in remote locations and in hostile conditions where they were forced to exercise restraint to avoid the possibility of global nuclear war; and

Whereas, this period began with the incomplete liberation of much of Europe from tyranny at the end of World War II and concluded with the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact and the Soviet Union and the rapid spread of democracy, especially in central and eastern Europe; and

Whereas, the men and women who served admirably and helped bring about the global collapse of the Soviet Union and what President Ronald Reagan called “The Evil Empire” are worthy of recognition, as is the triumph of freedom over communism; and

Whereas, the States of Maine and Kansas have enacted legislation to recognize May first, long known as Communist May Day, as “Cold War Victory Day”. 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, wish to express their gratitude for those who stood guard both in the uniformed and covert services during the Cold War era, recognizing both their sacrifices and their role in the fall of the Soviet Union.

Be it further resolved, that the members of the South Carolina Genera Assembly, by this resolution, wish to recognize the importance of the victory of freedom over communism in many nations as a result of the successful conclusion of the Cold War.

Be it further resolved, that South Carolina joins the States of Kansas and Maine in officially recognizing the first day of May as “Cold War Victory Day”.

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