**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF COLONEL THEODUS LINWOOD DRAYTON OF RIDGELAND, AND TO HONOR HIS REMARKABLE COMMITMENT TO JASPER COUNTY, THE PALMETTO STATE, AND OUR NATION.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Colonel Theodus “Theo” Linwood Drayton of Ridgeland at the age of seventy on Thursday, March 1, 2018; and

Whereas, born in Jasper County, Theo Drayton graduated from Jasper County High School, attended South Carolina State University, studied military and strategic studies at the Army War College, and earned a master’s degree in education at American University; and

Whereas, in the proud tradition of the sons of South Carolina, he served with distinction in the United States Army for thirty‑six years, where he attained the rank of colonel, and was an Iraq service veteran. He also served as a provost marshal while in the Army; and

Whereas, Colonel Drayton was awarded the Army Commendation Medal three times, the Army Good Conduct Award eight times, the National Defense Medal three times, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medals, the Achievement Award three times, and the Meritorious Service Award six times; and

Whereas, Theo Drayton was active in his local community. He was a member of the Jasper County Council, representing the Robertville District since 2011, and had been elected vice chairman in January 2018. He also served as a deacon at the Lovely Hill Baptist Church; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives deeply appreciate the life and legacy of Theo Drayton and the dedicated example of service and fairness he set for all who knew him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Colonel Theodus Linwood Drayton of Ridgeland, and honor his remarkable commitment to Jasper County, the Palmetto State, and our nation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Colonel Theodus Linwood Drayton.

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