**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE MEMBERS AND ALUMNI OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO MAINTAINING A STRONG AND VIABLE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY THROUGH EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE, AND TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA WEEK FROM FEBRUARY 16 THROUGH 23, 2013.

Whereas, founded by a group of young farmers in 1928, the Future Farmers of America (FFA) is a national organization that today boasts a membership of more than one‑half million students between the ages of twelve and twenty‑one, with chapters in all fifty states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; and

Whereas, South Carolina FFA members are recognized at the local, state, national, and international level for their outstanding leadership, academic accomplishments, appreciation of agriculture, demonstrated patriotism, and significant community service; and

Whereas, FFA members participate in post‑high school educational pursuits in preparation for one of the more than three hundred career opportunities available in the science, business, and technology of agriculture; and

Whereas, the mission of the FFA is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education; and

Whereas, South Carolina’s agricultural educators who serve as advisors to FFA members are known and respected throughout the nation for their exemplary skill in developing and implementing programs that challenge and inspire students to achieve excellence in life; and

Whereas, at a National FFA Board of Directors meeting in 1947, the week of George Washington’s birthday was designated as National FFA Week; and

Whereas, in 2013, February 16 through 23 is being observed as National FFA Week throughout South Carolina and the nation. 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, commend the members and alumni of the Future Farmers of America for their dedication to maintaining a strong and viable agricultural industry through education, leadership, and service, and join the celebration of National Future Farmers of America Week from February 16 through 23, 2013.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to state FFA officials in South Carolina.

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