**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE DR. JAYNE MARIE COMSTOCK ON HER RECENT APPOINTMENT TO THE PRESIDENCY OF WINTHROP UNIVERSITY, TO WELCOME HER TO SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO WISH HER WELL AS SHE TAKES UP HER NEW DUTIES AT WINTHROP’S HELM.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Dr. Jayne Marie Comstock has been appointed the tenth president of Winthrop University and will take up her official duties on July 1, 2013; and

Whereas, a native of Illinois, Dr. Comstock earned her doctorate in communication from the University of Arizona and holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in communication from Illinois State University, where she was recognized as an outstanding alumna. She is a member of several honor societies, including Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society. Last year, she also was inducted into Phi Beta Delta in recognition of her achievement in expanding international education for each of the institutions she served; and

Whereas, she has extensive experience as a senior‑level academic administrator and a national reputation in the area of higher education leadership. Most recently, she served as director of the executive leadership group of the American Council on Education (ACE) in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, as a frequent presenter at higher education conferences and events, Dr. Comstock is recognized as a leading expert in strategic planning and institutional effectiveness. She brings to Winthrop a wealth of experience in promoting student retention and success, delivering academic programs that are both mission driven and market smart, directing campus activities to have local impact and global reach, and developing alternative sources of revenue to fund strategic goals; and

Whereas, this award‑winning scholar has a distinguished publication record in the area of interpersonal communication in both personal and professional settings and on issues of import to higher education leadership; and

Whereas, prior to joining ACE, Jayne Marie Comstock served as chief academic officer at three different universities, including the role of provost and vice president for academic affairs at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana. As Butler’s provost, she facilitated the campuswide strategic planning process, co‑chaired a facilities master planning process, conducted comprehensive program reviews, inspired an entrepreneurial environment that encouraged the development of new academic programs, expanded international initiatives, and enhanced local partnerships, particularly with public schools; and

Whereas, Dr. Comstock strongly believes in active participation in her community and demonstrates that commitment through membership in various organizations. These include board membership for Junior Achievement and the YMCA; active committee work for chambers of commerce, pet shelters, economic development initiatives, and her church; and work for various boards, commissions, and committees across the higher education landscape; and

Whereas, at home, Jayne Marie Comstock and her husband, Larry A. Williamson, enjoy the companionship of Cocoa, their nine‑year‑old Chesapeake retriever. With an extensive background in higher education administration as a former vice president for advancement, director of government relations, and executive director of a university foundation, Larry Williamson is himself an experienced educator. He has taught political science courses at several universities and served on the staff of a U.S. Congressman, and he retired from the U.S. Navy as a captain; and

Whereas, the Senate takes great pleasure in extending a warm welcome to Dr. Jayne Marie Comstock and her husband, Larry Williamson, to their new home in the Palmetto State and at Winthrop University. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Dr. Jayne Marie Comstock on her recent appointment to the presidency of Winthrop University, welcome her to South Carolina, and wish her well as she takes up her new duties at Winthrop’s helm.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Jayne Marie Comstock.

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