**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE LAING MIDDLE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN MT. PLEASANT ON ITS MANY HONORS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TO WISH THE STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATION CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ALL THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, Laing Middle School of Science and Technology in Mt. Pleasant is the only partial‑magnet middle school in the area. It is also the only school in the area to have a Whole‑School Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Initiative; and

Whereas, Laing continues to emphasize science and technology, and in 2012, staff began working to become a fully integrated STEM school. Students are exposed to engineering design and hands‑on experiences with multiple technologies in all subjects; and

Whereas, home to over 1100 students, Laing’s mission is to prepare and inspire generations of students to meet the challenges of twenty‑first century society by fostering technological literacy, academic achievement, innovation, collaboration, and creative problem‑solving; and

Whereas, Laing has developed the first middle school FabLab in South Carolina with 3D printers, a laser cutter, CNC mills, digital cutters, an engine lathe, welding capabilities, and electronic devices to enhance its curriculum; and

Whereas, Laing has developed new courses in entrepreneurship and app development; and

Whereas, Laing has received top honors for the last three years, including winning the state championship in the 2016 Sea Perch competitions, an innovative underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with resources to build an underwater remotely operated vehicle; and

Whereas, in 2016, Laing won the state championship for its first Odyssey of the Mind team, a competition that teaches students to learn creative problem‑solving methods while having fun in the process; and

Whereas, Laing was selected as a “Top Ten STEM School” in the nation for a second year in a row from the Future Educational Technology Conference for STEM Excellence Awards. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Laing Middle School of Science and Technology on its many honors and accomplishments and look forward to hearing of its continued success.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to James Whitehair, Principal of Laing Middle School of Science and Technology.

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