**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR GEORGE STARNES OF COLUMBIA UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LANDER UNIVERSITY, AND TO EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE FOR HIS TWENTY‑FOUR YEARS OF TIRELESS SERVICE AS A MEMBER OF THAT BOARD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina Senate honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this state’s citizenry; and

Whereas, George Starnes stands high among their number as an outstanding public benefactor, one much admired in his role as a member of Lander University Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, the Senate has learned that George Starnes is retiring from the Lander University Board of Trustees on June 30, 2016, after twenty‑four years of dedicated service; and

Whereas, Mr. Starnes graduated from Lander in 1981 and received a master’s degree in financial services from the American College in 2002. Shortly after finishing Lander, he embarked on a career as a financial advisor at Northwestern Mutual, where he has distinguished himself as one of the most elite financial advisors in the nation; and

Whereas, Lander prepared George Starnes for a remarkably successful career, and he has expressed his loyalty and gratitude through wide‑ranging and extensive service to the university. He received the Young Alumni of the Year Award in 1996, served as co‑chairman of a fifteen million dollar comprehensive campaign committee from 2001 to 2006, received the Lander University Alumni Association Grace Iler Norman Award in 2006, established the George R. Starnes Family Scholarship in 2007, served on a presidential search committee, and served as a board member of The Lander Foundation, where he served on the alumni affairs committee; and

Whereas, in July 1992, George Starnes was elected to the Lander University Board of Trustees, and, in the nearly quarter century that has passed, his service to the board has included being chair of the Student Affairs/Intercollegiate Athletics Committee from 2009 to 2012, vice chairman of the board from 2013 to 2016, and as chairman of the board from 2001 to 2005, marking the first time a Lander alumni served in that capacity; and

Whereas, cognizant of his extraordinary contributions to the people of South Carolina and his alma mater, the Senate extends grateful thanks to George Starnes for his twenty‑four years of dedicated service as a member of Lander University Board of Trustees. As he retires from his duties on the board, the Senate wishes much happiness and fulfillment in all his future endeavors to this truly distinguished and gifted son of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor George Starnes of Columbia upon the occasion of his retirement from the Lander University Board of Trustees, and express the gratitude of the South Carolina Senate for his twenty‑four years of tireless service as a member of that board.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to George Starnes.

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