**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE DR. OSCAR F. LOVELACE, JR., MD, ON BEING NAMED THE 2015 FAMILY PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS AND TO RECOGNIZE HIM FOR AN OUTSTANDING CAREER AS A FAMILY PHYSICIAN.

Whereas, the American Academy of Family Physicians named Dr. Oscar Lovelace of Columbia, South Carolina their 2015 Family Physician of the Year. This prestigious honor awards one family physician who provides patients with compassionate, comprehensive care, and serves as a role model in his or her community, to other health professionals, and to residents and medical students; and

Whereas, Dr. Lovelace has been a family physician for more than twenty‑six years. He founded Lovelace Family Medicine in Prosperity, South Carolina in 1988; and

Whereas, Lovelace Family Medicine currently employs thirty‑eight staff members, including three board certified family physicians, eleven nurses, and three nurse practitioners. The practice serves eight thousand patients with all of their healthcare needs; and

Whereas, Dr. Lovelace is committed to making sure that all people have access to high quality healthcare. So in order to raise interest in practicing in underserved areas, Dr. Lovelace has hosted more than two hundred students and residents from all areas of the country for a four‑week elective program, where students learn about the challenges and rewards of running a rural family medicine practice. Several of Dr. Lovelace’s students have taken what they have learned and used it on medical missions trips; and

Whereas, Dr. Lovelace has been an instructor with South Carolina AHEC for many years and because of his involvement with the organization, Dr. Lovelace was an inaugural member of the AHEC Institute for Primary Care (IPC), which began in 2012. He remains active in the program and Lovelace Family Medicine is one of the most sought after sites for rotation. As an IPC Preceptor, Dr. Lovelace shared his model for an interprofessional community‑based weight management program that has become the basis for an MUSC/SC AHEC telemedicine weight management project, *Wellness Connect*, which began in April 2014. Over the years, many practitioners have been attracted to the practice established by Dr. Lovelace in Prosperity. Six physicians and one nurse practitioner have received funding from the SC AHEC Rural Physician Program to practice at Lovelace Family Medicine; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate are grateful for the service that Dr. Lovelace has provided to the citizens of this State, and the members wish him well in all his future endeavors. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That that members of the Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Dr. Oscar Lovelace on being named the 2015 Family Physician of the Year by the American Academy of Family Physicians and recognize him for an outstanding career as a family practice physician.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Dr. Oscar Lovelace.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑