**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SALKEHATCHIE FOR ITS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO CONGRATULATE THE UNIVERSITY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY, AND TO DECLARE MAY 1, 2015, “UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SALKEHATCHIE DAY” IN THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary in 2015 as a member of the state’s flagship public‑university system; and

Whereas, in 1965 the General Assembly established USC Salkehatchie as a regional center of the University of South Carolina in response to a growing civic movement in Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton, and Hampton counties to form a college in the region. The new school was named for the Salkehatchie River, which runs through the five counties that had united to seek its creation; and

Whereas, with eight part-time faculty and seventy-six students, USC Salkehatchie began its first classes in a building that previously housed an elementary school in Allendale, and later expanded to add a second campus in Walterboro. Today, the campus is comprised of fourteen buildings on the two campuses, and covers approximately two hundred and twenty acres; and

Whereas, as a valuable resource to the community, USC Salkehatchie provides leadership training and summer enrichment programs to adults and area youth. The institution currently serves more than one thousand students in numerous programs of study, offering diverse workforce‑development and small‑business assistance at two campus locations and several sites throughout the five‑county service area; and

Whereas, today, USC Salkehatchie is a vital component of our educational system in offering access to higher education through the University of South Carolina to people in the five-county service area. As an industry, USC Salkehatchie has a $21 million annual economic impact and an employment impact of five hundred fifty jobs in the Salkehatchie region; and

Whereas, USC Salkehatchie has brought national attention to the region through the Indians’ basketball program, which made history as the school’s first team to play in a national tournament; and

Whereas, grateful for the high‑quality education USC Salkehatchie has provided to its students, the Senate charges the school to uphold its fine heritage as it advances to even greater service to the people of South Carolina, and the members take great pleasure in saluting USC Salkehatchie on its five decades as an outstanding and essential public institution of higher learning. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie for its many years of service to the State of South Carolina, congratulate the university on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, and declare May 1, 2015, “University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Day” in the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie.

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