**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE PENDLETON FARMERS SOCIETY UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY ON JUNE 12, 2015.

Whereas, the Pendleton Farmers Society was founded by a group of prominent agricultural leaders from the Pendleton area of South Carolina on June 12, 1815; and

Whereas, the purpose of the society has been and continues to be to provide a forum for promoting the use of scientific agricultural technology and practices by land users, emphasizing the need for and importance of agricultural research, encouraging and supporting agricultural education for students in secondary schools, technical colleges and universities, supporting natural resource conservation, and nurturing the development of future agricultural leaders; and

Whereas, the society’s pioneering efforts to promote organized instruction in agriculture in secondary schools contributed to the first agricultural education program in South Carolina, co-funded by the Federal Smith-Hughes Act of 1918 to be at Pendleton High School; and

Whereas, the members of the society completed construction of the first permanent farmers’ society hall in 1828, which is the oldest farmers’ hall in continuous use in the United States; and

Whereas, Thomas Green Clemson, president of the society in 1867, presented a paper at a meeting of the society in which he pointed out the advantages of an agricultural and mechanical college; and

Whereas, Mr. Clemson’s will provided land and funds that led to the establishment of the land grant institution known as Clemson Agricultural College (now Clemson University). Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, join in recognizing and commending the members of the Pendleton Farmers Society upon the occasion of the two hundredth anniversary of the society and encourage all South Carolinians to appreciate the many contributions of the society to the agricultural industry of our state.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Pendleton Farmers Society.

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