**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JEAN‑YIH (PETER) CHIOU, DIRECTOR OF THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN ATLANTA, FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD CREATING A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, in 2011, Taiwanese diplomat Jean‑yih (Peter) Chiou was appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to serve as director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta. His hope was to create a closer relationship between Taiwan and the beautiful State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, in the same year, Mr. Chiou coordinated a reception to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the sister‑state relationship between South Carolina and Taiwan and the signing of the Letter of Intent on the Designation of Taiwan Academy Contact Points and Bilateral Cooperation between the University of South Carolina and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta; and

Whereas, Mr. Chiou coordinated the Annual Taiwan Conference with the University of South Carolina and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta each year from 2011 through 2016; and

Whereas, as recently as March 2015, he played a pivotal role in facilitating the formation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles and the Republic of China (Taiwan) through the Ministry of Transportation and Communications concerning the Exchange of Drivers’ Licenses, which allows residents with a Taiwanese driver’s license to forego tests to receive a South Carolina driver’s license and also allows South Carolina’s licensed drivers to exchange their state licenses in Taiwan for those issued by the nation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Jean‑yih (Peter) Chiou, director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta, for his significant contributions toward creating a closer relationship between Taiwan and the State of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Jean‑yih (Peter) Chiou, director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta.

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