**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO WELCOME TO THE PALMETTO STATE THE HONORABLE HAYNES H. TOWNSEND, PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 93RD ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA LIONS MULTIPLE DISTRICT 32 STATE CONVENTION AND TO HONOR THE LIONS FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Whereas, founded in 1917 by Chicago business leader Melvin Jones, Lions Clubs International (LCI) is dedicated to making the world a better place. The largest service organization in the world, LCI, with more than 1.4 million members in more than forty thousand clubs, has become the world leader in blindness prevention and works extensively in members’ local communities to help those in need. Lions Clubs activities include general community welfare projects, such as building parks, supporting hospitals and libraries, establishing youth programs, and sponsoring camps for disabled children; health projects, including aid to the blind, diabetes awareness, and drug‑abuse and violence prevention through Lions Quest; and worldwide programs that provide disaster relief, long‑term assistance to those in need, and recycled eyeglasses and hearing aids for distribution in developing countries, the fostering of world peace through the International Peace Poster Contest and international youth exchange, and promotion and knowledge of the United Nations; and

Whereas, from April 21 to April 23, 2017, Palmetto State Lions will host the 93rd Annual South Carolina Lions Multiple District 32 State Convention in Spartanburg, featuring the Honorable Haynes H. Townsend, past international director of Lions Clubs International, as their special guest; and

Whereas, Haynes Townsend, who hails from Dalton, Georgia, and serves in the Dalton Noon Lions Club, was elected to serve a two‑year term as a director of the International Association of Lions Clubs at the association’s 92nd International Convention, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 6‑10, 2009. He also serves as a judge; and

Whereas, Judge Townsend has held many offices within the association, including club president, region chair, zone chair, district governor, district librarian, and multiple district leadership chair. He also served as a presenter at the USA/Canada forum; and

Whereas, in recognition of his spirit of excellence and dedicated service, Haynes Townsend has been granted numerous honors, among them three Lion of the Year awards, a District 18‑A Hall of Fame Award, an International President Award, and a Knight of Strength Award. Further, this Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow has been honored as Judge of the Year by the State of Georgia. He serves actively in many professional and community organizations; and

Whereas, Haynes Townsend finds strength for his labors in the strong support of his family: his beautiful wife, Donna (also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow) and their two delightful daughters; and

Whereas, cognizant of the Lions’ fine record of one hundred years of service, as well as of the distinguished record of their international leadership, the General Assembly takes great pleasure in congratulating LCI on its centennial anniversary and in welcoming Haynes Townsend, past international director of Lions Clubs International, to South Carolina on the occasion of the 93rd Annual South Carolina Lions Multiple District 32 State Convention. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, welcome to the Palmetto State the Honorable Haynes H. Townsend, past international director of Lions Clubs International, on the occasion of the 93rd Annual South Carolina Lions Multiple District 32 State Convention and honor the Lions for their many years of community service.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be presented to the Honorable Haynes Townsend and the South Carolina Lions.

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