**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MEGAN GORDON FOR BEING NAMED MISS SOUTH CAROLINA USA FOR 2017 AND FOR PLACING IN THE TOP FIVE IN THE MISS USA PAGEANT AND TO HONOR HER FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL POISE, TALENT, AND BEAUTY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Megan Gordon was crowned the 2017 Miss South Carolina USA in November 2016, and that she placed in the Top Five at the Miss USA Pageant in May 2017 in Las Vegas, Nevada; and

Whereas, a native of North Augusta, she is the daughter of Lisa and James Dukes and Wilbur Gordon, Jr., and a granddaughter of Deacon John Collins, Sr., and the late Betty Collins and of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Gordon, Sr., of Edgefield; and

Whereas, when Megan Gordon was only nine years old, she first saw the Miss USA Pageant and knew then that she wanted to be Miss South Carolina USA and to participate in the Miss USA Pageant; and

Whereas, she began her pageant career at the age of fourteen and has acquired numerous titles, including Miss Collegiate America 2014 and Miss Southeast. She also was first runner‑up in 2015 in the Miss South Carolina USA Pageant; and

Whereas, shortly after being crowned Miss South Carolina USA, Ms. Gordon earned a degree from Armstrong State University in Savannah, Georgia in nursing, specializing in pediatrics and seeking to be an advocate for children with cancer and blood disorders; and

Whereas, she has volunteered with organizations that aid in helping children and their families, such as SAFE Kids, Light the Night, and the Ronald McDonald House. In 2012, she was named Distinguished Young Woman of South Carolina; and

Whereas, Ms. Gordon has traveled to such countries as Canada and India and visited picturesque and romantic cities, such as Venice and Rome, but this last year, she has had the opportunity to visit cities throughout her beautiful home State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, since November 2016, she has represented the Palmetto State on the national stage with a message meant to empower youth and to instill in them the confidence, care, and class needed to rise to the next level in life; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the respect and recognition that Megan Gordon has brought to this State, and the members expect to hear of her continued achievements in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Megan Gordon for being named Miss South Carolina USA for 2017 and for placing in the Top Five in the Miss USA Pageant and honor her for her exceptional poise, talent, and beauty.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Megan Gordon.

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