**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR FLORENCE P. BELSER FOR HER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AS DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY PALMETTO GIRLS STATE AND TO THANK HER FOR HER ENDURING COMMITMENT TO THE YOUTH OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize and honor Florence P. Belser for her many accomplishments in service to the young women of South Carolina. She currently serves as Director of the American Legion Auxiliary Palmetto Girls State; and

Whereas, Palmetto Girls State is a one-week leadership and citizenship training program, created to educate outstanding high school students about state and local government and citizenship. Girls attending Palmetto Girls State experience governmental procedure by simulating political campaigns, elections, and the political process. They also learn about the principles of citizenship and public service from guest speakers, expert panels, and staff members; and

Whereas, the delegates, who are rising seniors in high school, are selected for the program based on their leadership skills and involvement in their schools and communities. As citizens of Palmetto Girls State, the delegates are divided into groups of about thirty called “cities.” They will create local governments, devise political party platforms, and ultimately elect a Senate, a House of Representatives, and state constitutional officers; and

Whereas, under Florence’s leadership, the American Legion Auxiliary Palmetto Girls State has grown from over four hundred fifty to almost six hundred fifty delegates. As a volunteer program, Palmetto Girls State involves countless hours of work year-round; and

Whereas, the Senate is grateful for the diligence and passion of Florence P. Belser in her service to the State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor Florence P. Belser for her twenty-five years as Director of the American Legion Auxiliary Palmetto Girls State and thank her for her enduring commitment to the youth of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Florence P. Belser.

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