**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE THE RICHLAND COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO THANK THE COMMISSION FOR THE MANY LIFE‑ENRICHING SERVICES IT PROVIDES TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly are pleased to learn that the Richland County Recreation Commission (RCRC) is celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of its founding this year; and

Whereas, in 1960, the South Carolina Legislature created RCRC through Act 873; and

Whereas, guided by their mission to enrich lives and connect communities through diverse recreational opportunities, RCRC staff members share the same vision: to be recognized as a leader in park management and the delivery of quality recreation programs in order to better promote health and improve the quality of life in Richland County; and

Whereas, the first and only recreation agency in the State of South Carolina accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Recreation and Park Agencies, the commission manages forty‑one different recreational facilities, including parks, community centers, pools, tennis courts, and a public golf course, and seeks to offer a wide variety of activities at its various sites that appeal to an equally wide variety of Richland County residents; and

Whereas, presently, RCRC facilities host adult and special‑needs programs; travel clubs; exercise classes; painting, pottery, and ceramics classes; after‑school programs; summer camps; coffee clubs; music lessons; health screenings; voting sites; sports leagues; and numerous other recreational opportunities; and

Whereas, in 2008, RCRC was named South Carolina Recreation and Park Association Agency of the Year, and the commission continues its long tradition of excellence in the field of parks and recreation; and

Whereas, cognizant that parks, open spaces, and recreation programs and facilities create healthy communities, reduce crime, attract business, raise economic levels, increase real estate and property values, and encourage tourism, the General Assembly wishes to express its grateful thanks for the fine work of the Richland County Recreation Commission and salute the agency for its half century of serving the citizens and communities of the South Carolina Midlands. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and congratulate the Richland County Recreation Commission on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary and thank the commission for the many life‑enriching services it provides to the people of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Richland County Recreation Commission.

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