**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

EXPRESSING THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE TO MAYOR RICHARD W. THOMAS, JR., COUNCIL MEMBERS, BOB BISHOP, RUSTY ONLEY, AND MICHAEL N. SMITH, TOWN CLERK CHRISTINE MURPHY, OTHER STAFF, AND ALL THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF ARCADIA LAKES IN RICHLAND COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INCORPORATION FOLLOWING A FAVORABLE VOTE IN AN INCORPORATION REFERENDUM HELD ON OCTOBER 30, 1959.

Whereas, in the early 1900’s, to escape the hustle and bustle of the metropolitan areas of Columbia, a few adventurous families began settling on multi‑acre tracts on a 2,288 acre parcel known in the 1880’s as the “Douglas Mill Tract”; and

Whereas, when that migration of the first families began, Arcadia Lakes was agricultural land composed of lakes and towering pine trees which over the years underwent steady development with the addition of new roads, improvements to existing roads, and the adding of subdivisions; and

Whereas, over the years, this rural area underwent a metamorphosis into a suburban community whose residents desired to maintain a separate identity keeping the unique features of the area; and

Whereas, in community meetings, a consensus developed that the goal of maintaining the uniqueness of the area would best be achieved by incorporating as a separate municipality. A petition filed October 9, 1959, gave rise to an incorporation referendum held October 30, 1959, in which by a vote of 46 to 30, incorporation was approved; and

Whereas, Dr. Alfred Burnside, Sr. was elected the town’s first mayor and L. E. Atwater, Harriet Burnside, Edward Proctor, and W. W. Robinson were elected the first aldermen for the Town of Arcadia Lakes; and

Whereas, over the years, the population of the town has grown, resulting in zoning requirements, and a change to the council form of government in 1976; and

Whereas, with the enlightened and dedicated leadership of the founding town officials and the dedication of those who have succeeded them down to the present day, together with the active support of the town’s close‑knit residents, the special qualities that led those founding families to move into the area in the early part of the last century have been maintained and reinforced; and

Whereas, it is appropriate for the members of the South Carolina Senate to honor the public service and the contributions of all those who over the years have worked to keep alive and to improve all those attributes that led to the incorporation of the town. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate congratulate Mayor Richard W. Thomas, Jr., council members Bob Bishop, Rusty Onley, and Michael N. Smith, Town Clerk Christine Murphy, other staff, and all the residents of the Town of Arcadia Lakes in Richland County on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of its incorporation following a favorable vote in an incorporation referendum held on October 30, 1959.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mayor Richard W. Thomas, Jr.

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