**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE 31st ANNUAL “WORLD FAMOUS” BLUE CRAB FESTIVAL, TO BE HELD IN LITTLE RIVER ON SATURDAY, MAY 19, AND SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2012, TO ENCOURAGE ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO ATTEND AND ENJOY THIS FAMILY‑FRIENDLY EVENT, AND TO WISH ITS ORGANIZERS EVERY SUCCESS.

Whereas, situated about twenty miles north of Myrtle Beach, Little River is the oldest town along the South Carolina Greater Grand Strand and one of its last communities where a slower pace of life still exists; and

Whereas, through the past thirty‑one years, Little River’s “World Famous” Blue Crab Festival has become an important part of the town’s unique culture and heritage. The family‑oriented, totally volunteer‑run event showcases Little River’s character and close connection with the water, with its abundance of fresh seafood; and

Whereas, what began in 1981 as a small waterfront gathering has grown into a premier event that draws visitors from all over the country. This year, the “World Famous” Blue Crab Festival is expected to host more than fifty thousand visitors at the fun‑filled, two‑day celebration; and

Whereas, this year’s edition of the festival, Saturday, May 19, and Sunday, May 20, 2012, includes unique arts and crafts, businesses and community groups showcasing their offerings, children’s activities, fantastic entertainment, the annual beauty pageant and 5‑K run, and, of course, delicious food; and

Whereas, leading the festival planners is Executive Director Tracie Waller, ably assisted by Hubert Bullard, who handles vendor recruitment and coordination. Their outstanding leadership of the hundreds of volunteers working under their aegis keeps everything about the festival flowing in shipshape fashion; and

Whereas, after bills are paid, proceeds from the Blue Crab Festival go back into the community. The festival supports local projects and nonprofit groups in order to make a difference in the lives of Little River’s citizenry; and

Whereas, the community’s continuous dedication to providing visitors and residents quality food and entertainment has made the event one of the most popular volunteer festivals on the Southeastern coast. The Senate commends the people of Little River for bringing the “World Famous” Blue Crab Festival to the Palmetto State and encourages all South Carolinians to patronize and enjoy its offerings. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, celebrate the 31st Annual “World Famous” Blue Crab Festival, to be held in Little River on Saturday, May 19, and Sunday, May 20, 2012, encourage all South Carolinians to attend and enjoy this family‑friendly event, and wish its organizers every success.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Blue Crab Festival.

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