**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE LEXINGTON MEDICAL CENTER ON THE OCCASION OF ITS FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY, AND, ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO EXPRESS THE APPRECIATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE FOR THE CENTER’S MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THIS GREAT STATE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that January 6, 2011, marks the fortieth anniversary of Lexington Medical Center (LMC); and

Whereas, LMC has a long and venerable history. Forty years ago on January 6, 1971, Lexington County Hospital, as it was then called, opened with one hundred twenty‑five beds, all private rooms, and two hundred fifty employees on four floors. By 1972, Lexington Medical Center Volunteer Auxiliary had eighty active members averaging fifteen hundred hours of work each month; and

Whereas, after three years of construction, in 1977 the hospital had grown to twice its original size with the addition of four floors; one hundred twenty‑three additional private rooms; and outpatient, inpatient, and emergency facilities; and

Whereas, in 1978, Chapin Community Medical Center opened, making Lexington County Hospital the first hospital in the area to expand service to outlying areas. By the year of its tenth anniversary, 1981, Lexington County Hospital had on its rolls one thousand employees and one hundred six physicians; and

Whereas, continued expansion of facilities and services marked the years that followed. Highlights in the 1980s were the 1985 opening of the Women’s Breast Center; the 1986 opening of St. Andrews Medical Park/Day Hospital in Irmo (now called Lexington Medical Center Irmo); the hospital’s name change in 1987 to Lexington Medical Center, a name that better reflected the center’s transformation into a large health‑care organization with a wide variety of services; and the 1989 addition of LMC Extended Care, now the largest nursing home in the Carolinas; and

Whereas, highlights of the 1990s were the 1990 establishment of the LMC Foundation; the 1994 piloting of a doula program that became a nationally‑recognized success and the first of its kind in the Southeast; the 1996 opening of LMC Swansea; and the 1999 opening of LMC Batesburg‑Leesville and LMC Gilbert; and

Whereas, in 2001, Lexington Medical Center Lexington opened its new 110,000‑square‑foot community medical center, followed in 2002 by the opening of Carroll Campbell Place, a state‑of‑the‑art facility for Alzheimer’s patients, named in honor of former Governor Carroll Campbell; and

Whereas, continuing its expansion, in 2007 Lexington Medical Park 2, a medical office building, opened. It was the first LEED‑certified medical office building in South Carolina, built with environmentally friendly design, including recycled construction materials and attention to water and air quality. That same year, LMC became a smoke‑free facility; and

Whereas, in 2009, Lexington Medical Center took significant steps toward the ability to provide comprehensive cardiovascular care to the Midlands by reaching an agreement with Providence Hospitals supporting an open‑heart surgery program at LMC and by receiving approval to perform emergency angioplasty. In 2010, Lexington Medical Center received approval to perform open‑heart surgery, scheduled to begin in 2011; and

Whereas, at present, Lexington Medical Center has four hundred fourteen beds, five thousand two hundred employees, six hundred physicians on the medical staff, six community medical centers, two occupational health facilities, and the largest nursing home in the Carolinas; and

Whereas, for four decades, LMC has admirably discharged its duty to offer caring, premium‑quality medical services to the citizens of the Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Lexington Medical Center on the occasion of its fortieth anniversary, and, on behalf of the people of South Carolina, express their appreciation for the center’s many years of dedicated service to this great State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Lexington Medical Center.

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