**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE IBM CORPORATION UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, IBM, unmatched in the world of business and technology, will celebrate its one hundredth anniversary on June 16, 2011, reaching this important milestone due to the talent, passion, and excellence of IBM’s employees; and

Whereas, while countless corporations, political groups, technologies, economic upheavals, and scientific disciplines have risen and disappeared throughout the decades, IBM has persevered by providing critical insights for America’s rising leaders who are charting their paths in a more global and competitive world; and

Whereas, IBM’s centennial is about making the world work better by exploring how the company has pursued progress in the last century in three ways: pioneering the science of information, changing the way the world works, and reinventing the modern corporation; and

Whereas, IBM has always created technological discoveries that transform our lives, from the first electronic calculator and programmable computers, to the chip that powers the leading gaming consoles and the Watson computer smart enough to battle champions on the popular television game show, *Jeopardy*; and

Whereas, since its founding, IBM has continued to evolve and anticipate the needs of its clients and citizens around the world, always using the information revolution to improve our world by creating cleaner air and water, developing better crime‑fighting systems for cities, and lowering the incidence of numerous infectious diseases, such as AIDS and influenza; and

Whereas, IBM has continued to reinvent itself as a modern corporation through sound practices around strong leadership, management training, and global growth. Leading business in meeting the challenges of global business and collaboration, IBM built an equal‑opportunity workforce eleven years before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and was the first technology company to acquire a consulting firm; and

Whereas, IBM’s long‑term view of leadership development and talent management has helped effectuate positive changes in business and society and has enabled the company to pioneer many of the management practices of twentieth‑century business such as diversity and accessibility, cross‑cultural adaptability, and the training of managers on a massive scale; and

Whereas, IBM also has a long and rich history of serving the United States federal government, a partnership that dates back to the early 1900s when the company pioneered cutting‑edge technology to sort census results faster than human clerks for the U.S. Census Bureau; and

Whereas, today, IBM continues to shape the way the world works by investing six billion dollars annually in research and development, and more than four hundred thousand employees globally are developing practices and making discoveries that are creating a “Smarter Planet.” IBM is partnering with federal agencies and local governments in the use of analytics to detect waste, fraud, and abuse and in the use of cloud computing to streamline and connect operations, citizens’ services, and critical missions. These tools and practices are increasing efficiency and saving money at a time when governments are expected to do more with less; and

Whereas, IBM first opened an office in South Carolina in 1945, and currently has offices in Columbia and Greenville, that employ hundreds while many hundred more IBM retirees reside within the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, these IBM family members devote thousands of community‑service hours to organizations throughout our State, such as Sister Care and Habitat for Humanity. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of South Carolina, by this resolution, congratulate the IBM Corporation, upon the occasion of its centennial anniversary.

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