**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ARCHITECTURAL VISION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT AND HIS SOUTH CAROLINA CREATION OF AULDBRASS PLANTATION, AND TO COMMEND THE SIGNIFICANT WORK OF JOEL SILVER TO RESTORE AULDBRASS TO THE ORIGINAL WRIGHT PLANS.

Whereas, in a tumultuous life that spanned almost a century from 1867 to 1959, Frank Lloyd Wright became the epitome of American architecture; and

Whereas, his innovative style spanned the Prairie School, the “open plan” reflecting the influence of Japanese architecture, the textile block system, high Organic style, and the Usonian House, all culminating in his crowning achievement, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City; and

Whereas, in his prolific career, Wright designed and completed two homes in South Carolina: Broad Margin in Greenville, the residence of Gabrielle Austin, and Auldbrass Plantation in Yemassee, the C. Leigh Stevens House; and

Whereas, designed in 1939 for C. Leigh Stevens, construction on Auldbrass including the main house, stable complex, and kennels would last from 1940 to 1951; and

Whereas, the name of the plantation which is credited to Wright is a variation of “Old Brass” which was the name given to the farmland and the local river landing; and

Whereas, Stevens, an industrial engineer, joined five parcels of land together along the Combahee River to form the picturesque setting of the one-of-a-kind modernist plantation he envisioned; and

Whereas, in 1986, film producer and Wright enthusiast Joel Silver purchased Auldbrass, which reflects the local landscape despite its innovative design, and he spent two decades renovating the derelict remains of Wright’s art work and suiting it for his twenty‑first century family; and

Whereas, shrouded in the mysterious beauty of towering moss‑covered live oaks of the Lowcountry, the still and reedy waters of Auldbrass reflect the brooding genius of its architect and the quiet beauty of Creation; and

Whereas, placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976, Auldbrass opens to oblique lanes of crushed brick lined with red concrete and boasts lavishly vibrant azaleas surrounding the structures with copper roofs, polished cypress walls canted inward, and doors with ornamental panes; and

Whereas, the Storer House in Hollywood was the first Wright purchase for Joel Silver in 1984, the squarish relief ornament of that house becoming the company logo for Silver Pictures, and marked the first collaboration between Silver and Wright’s grandson, Eric Lloyd Wright, who Silver would hire again to help him fully realize Frank Lloyd Wright’s vision for Auldbrass; and

Whereas, primarily using products from the Palmetto State, his painstaking and loving restorations have been funded by his colossal success producing such movies as *Lethal Weapon*, *The Matrix*, and the *Die Hard* franchises; and

Whereas, Silver’s Wrightonian purity of the renovations has included restoring existing buildings; rebuilding those portions of the property including the barn that burned in the fire of 1952; and adding the structures that Wright never completed which include a swimming pool, the guest house and cabins, and a dining barge to float on the cypress pond in front of the house; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are grateful for the artistic work of Frank Lloyd Wright and Auldbrass Plantation which stands as a monument to his creative ability and energy, and they congratulate Joel Silver for his beautiful renovation and completion of Wright’s work and thank him for his generosity in sharing this precious gift with our State. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor the architectural vision and accomplishments of Frank Lloyd Wright and his South Carolina creation of Auldbrass Plantation, and commend the significant work of Joel Silver to restore Auldbrass to the original Wright plans.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Joel Silver, Eric Lloyd Wright, and the Beaufort Open Land Trust.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑