**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SECOND HELPINGS OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND ON THE OCCASION OF ITS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY, AND TO THANK THIS DEDICATED VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION FOR ITS TWO DECADES OF DISTRIBUTING FOOD TO NONPROFIT AGENCIES THAT FEED THE HUNGRY.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Second Helpings of Hilton Head Island is celebrating its twentieth anniversary of distributing food to nonprofit agencies that feed the hungry; and

Whereas, in 1992, fourteen Lowcountry neighbors saw a need to collect and distribute surplus food to the needy. Using their personal station wagons, that first year these good neighbors collected and distributed forty‑six thousand pounds of food to Bluffton Self Help for use in its food‑assistance program. Thus began the nonprofit volunteer organization now known as Second Helpings, which has grown considerably since its humble beginnings and presently serves Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton counties; and

Whereas, in 2011, 323 Second Helpings volunteers collected and distributed 2,600,000 pounds of food to seventy‑eight other nonprofit agencies and churches in five refrigerated trucks. In 2012, twenty years and twenty million pounds of food down the road from its inception, Second Helpings looks toward many more years of invaluable assistance to the three‑county area it serves; and

Whereas, over the course of its twenty‑year history, Second Helpings has “rescued” more than five million pounds of food destined for landfills and given it to agencies that feed the disadvantaged. Currently, more than one hundred sixty volunteers from Hilton Head Island, Sun City, and Beaufort gather perishable goods daily from local restaurants, caterers, resorts, and grocery stores and deliver the food to approximately sixty‑five local nonprofit agencies; and

Whereas, a member agency of the United Way of Beaufort County, Second Helpings does not accept payment for food. Instead, funding comes from foundations, missions supporting nonprofit organizations, clubs, churches, and private donations; and

Whereas, Second Helpings recipients include various local child‑development centers, senior‑citizen centers, homes for the mentally challenged, churches, and other charitable organizations. An estimated two thousand people benefit from the four thousand pounds of food collected each day; and

Whereas, Second Helpings believes “no person in our community should have to worry about whether or not they will have enough food to eat today”; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives recognize that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like the volunteers of Second Helpings, who use their talents and resources to serve others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Second Helpings of Hilton Head Island on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary, and thank this dedicated volunteer organization for its two decades of distributing food to nonprofit agencies that feed the hungry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Second Helpings.

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