**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INDEPENDENCE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that August 31, 2012, marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago’s independence, which was granted to this former British crown colony on August 31, 1962; and

Whereas, Trinidad and Tobago’s rich cultural heritage and wealth of diversity affirm a people who have overcome obstacles and forged a path of self‑determination, as have the people of the United States from the dawn of its history; and

Whereas, our two countries have shared a common history of promoting ethnic tolerance and religious freedom, to the enhancement of our quality of life; and

Whereas, the strength of the bond between Trinidad and Tobago and the United States is exemplified by the strong community of Americans of Trinidadian and Tobagonian descent; and

Whereas, grateful for the friendship our countries share, the people of South Carolina salute the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago as they commemorate this important historic event, the fiftieth anniversary of their country’s independence. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their congratulations to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago at the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of its independence.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the President of Trinidad and Tobago, George Maxwell Richards.

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