**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SUMTER FOR ITS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO HONOR AND CONGRATULATE THE UNIVERSITY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS FORTY‑FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, University of South Carolina Sumter (USC Sumter) traces its beginnings to 1960, when a dialogue began between representatives of Sumter and Clemson University for the purpose of establishing a two‑year branch campus; and

Whereas, in 1962, the parties agreed on a partnership to create Clemson’s first academic branch in Sumter, and initial enrollment for the new branch in 1966 was ninety‑seven students; and

Whereas, in 1973, after successful negotiations between Sumter officials, Clemson, and the University of South Carolina, the Sumter institution became part of the University of South Carolina branch‑campus system; and

Whereas, with aspirations of becoming the next four‑year campus of the University of South Carolina, USC Sumter has served 53,445 students since 1966 and serves more than two thousand students annually on a fifty‑acre campus. Since 1976, the institution has conferred 3,720 associate degrees and, since 1981, 1,546 baccalaureate degrees through programs offered by USC Sumter in cooperation with other USC campuses; and

Whereas, during the current academic year, USC Sumter is celebrating forty‑five years of service to the citizens of South Carolina as a member of the state’s flagship public‑university system; and

Whereas, grateful for the exceptionally high‑quality education USC Sumter has provided to its students over the years, the State of South Carolina recognizes the indispensable role that public universities will play in developing the citizen leaders and professionals needed by this great State to succeed in a globally competitive, knowledge‑driven economy; and

Whereas, the Senate charges USC Sumter to uphold its fine heritage as it moves forward to even greater service to the people of South Carolina, and the members take great pleasure in expressing their best wishes and congratulations to USC Sumter on its nearly five decades as an outstanding public university in the Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, commend University of South Carolina Sumter for its many years of service to the State of South Carolina, and honor and congratulate the university on the occasion of its forty‑fifth anniversary.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to USC Sumter.

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