**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE OCCASION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE TOWN OF FURMAN IN HAMPTON COUNTY, AND TO CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND MAYOR LOUIS NEWTON, JR., THE TOWN COUNCIL, AND THE CITIZENS OF FURMAN FOR A CENTURY OF DISPLAYING THE CHARM AND DIGNITY OF THIS SOUTH CAROLINA TREASURE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that the Town of Furman reached the milestone of its centennial anniversary on March 21, 2011; and

Whereas, nestled in the Lowcountry verdure of Hampton County, the Town of Furman boasts the simplicity of a serene agricultural landscape, a country lifestyle, and a neighborly population; and

Whereas, Furman is situated on the former plantation of Josiah Daniel Johnson that covered more than a thousand acres in St. Peter’s Parish, Old Beaufort District, Goethe Township. The original community spread over the Carolina‑Midland Railroad tracks that later became Southern Railroad; and

Whereas, named for Lizzie Furman, a former slave, who, during the Reconstruction Era, acquired property in the area that bordered the railroad tracks, around which the community began to develop; and

Whereas, this gentle woman, known and beloved in the community, was affectionately called “Mum” by the local people and was often sought for the use of her healing herb tea; and

Whereas, Lizzie Furman generously deeded part of her property for the construction of a depot along the railroad tracks at the request of railroad agents, and after the station was built in May 1900, a sign was erected beside the depot that read “Furman”; and

Whereas, on March 21, 1911, the town was incorporated with corporate limits of one circular mile from the Southern Railway depot and included one hundred fifty inhabitants; and

Whereas, while the railroad remained the chief form of transportation for goods to market, the Town of Furman shipped more watermelons than any other small town in the State, and when trucking companies began loading and transporting, string beans, potatoes, squash, and hay were marketed as well; and

Whereas, some thirty businesses have met the physical needs of the citizens of Furman since the early nineteen hundreds, and numerous churches have served the spiritual needs of the community; and

Whereas, today the Town Hall stands where a two story school building was built in the late 1920s housing grades one through eleven, and later grade twelve; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate takes great pride in recounting the rich heritage throughout the century of community life in the Town of Furman, and the members anticipate her bright future enhanced by the sound legacy of her past. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, celebrate the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Town of Furman in Hampton County, and congratulate and commend Mayor Louis Newton, Jr., the town council, and the citizens of Furman for a century of displaying the charm and dignity of this South Carolina treasure.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mayor Louis Newton, Jr.

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