**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE TIMKEN GAFFNEY BEARING PLANT UPON ITS FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO WISH IT CONTINUED SUCCESS IN THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, the Gaffney Bearing Plant, a Timken Company manufacturing plant, will celebrate its fortieth anniversary on August 13, 2011; and

Whereas, Timken has a long and productive history in South Carolina beginning with the groundbreaking of the Gaffney plant in 1969 and its opening in 1971; and

Whereas, the plant comprises approximately one hundred ninety acres in Gaffney; and

Whereas, originally costing an estimated fifty million dollars, the Gaffney Bearing Plant is the most modern, high-production tapered roller bearing manufacturing complex in the United States; and

Whereas, over the years Timken has continued to invest in the Gaffney facility which is one of five Timken facilities in South Carolina where a skilled and dedicated workforce manufactures precision products for the global market; and

Whereas, Timken employs 1,719 South Carolina residents - over seven hundred of them in the Gaffney facility; and

Whereas, automakers and automotive suppliers account for approximately sixty percent of the plant’s production; and

Whereas, the Timken Foundation has donated over eight million dollars to worthwhile community projects in the Gaffney area over the past four decades. The Foundation’s support has included gifts for improvements in area recreation facilities, the local library, education programs, and support for the needy in Cherokee County; and

Whereas, it is fitting and appropriate for the members of the Senate to pause in their deliberations to remember the significant contributions this plant and company have made to the Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, recognize the Timken Gaffney Bearing Plant upon its fortieth anniversary and to wish it continued success.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Timken Gaffney Bearing Plant.

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