**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE STUDENTS, TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND STAFF OF MARRINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS IN BERKELEY COUNTY ON THE RECOGNITION OF THEIR SCHOOL AS A 2012 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to honor Marrington Middle School of the Arts in Berkeley County on being named a National Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education on September 7, 2012; and

Whereas, the National Blue Ribbon Schools program recognizes K‑12 schools with students who achieve at the highest levels or who have made progress in closing student‑achievement gaps. Marrington is among approximately three hundred 2012 nationwide winners; and

Whereas, the State Department of Education nominated Marrington Middle School of the Arts for having met the United States Department of Education’s “schools where students score in the top 10 percent on state assessments” criterion. For 2012, Marrington was the only South Carolina middle school nominated for the award; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Principal Jim Spencer, Marrington’s administration, faculty, and staff have consistently demonstrated their commitment to excellence and to the school’s 384 students and their families. This commitment has resulted in the dramatic gains in students’ English and math test scores that ultimately brought Marrington designation as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School; and

Whereas, Marrington Middle School of the Arts is no stranger to capturing prestigious honors, having also won the Palmetto Gold Award, Palmetto Silver Award, and Palmetto’s Finest Award finalist status. As another powerful indicator of its high achievement, its 2012 South Carolina Annual School Report Card Rating was “Excellent,” and its 2012 federal report card boasted an “A”; and

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives recognizes and salutes Marrington Middle School of the Arts on its outstanding educational success, and the members extend their appreciation for the excellence the school continues to achieve as it educates our most precious resource, our children. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate the students, teachers, administrators, and staff of Marrington Middle School of the Arts in Berkeley County on the recognition of their school as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Principal Jim Spencer of Marrington Middle School of the Arts.

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