**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS AT THE CELEBRATION OF ITS SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY, TO COMMEND THE ORGANIZATION FOR ITS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OVER THE PAST SEVENTY YEARS, AND TO EXTEND SINCERE BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that on April 23, 2013, the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) will celebrate its seventieth anniversary. It is therefore particularly appropriate at this time to highlight NFIB’s notable achievements and underscore its positive impact on the citizens of South Carolina; and

Whereas, the National Federation of Independent Business is the nation’s largest small business advocacy group and the State of South Carolina’s largest small business advocacy group, representing members before legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; and

Whereas, founded by Wilson Harder in 1943, the NFIB represents members ranging from the smallest self‑employed entrepreneur to large enterprises employing hundreds of workers. In the Palmetto State, where more than 4,100 citizens are members of the NFIB, small business owners provide over half of all the state’s private‑sector wage and salary jobs, and 95 percent of businesses in South Carolina are independently owned; and

Whereas, the NFIB sets its public policy positions by regularly polling members, acting on their advice, and carrying a unified message to Congress and state legislatures on behalf of independent business owners. In this great State, a dozen NFIB members also serve in the South Carolina General Assembly; and

Whereas, the members of the NFIB act as a powerful network of grassroots activists in their hometowns to influence public policy at the state and federal level, all for the benefit of small and independent business and for the maintenance of values essential to sustaining a free‑enterprise working environment; and

Whereas, a source of great pride to the citizens of South Carolina, the members of the NFIB have maintained a high quality of professionalism through the years; and

Whereas, in addition, the NFIB has maintained its mission to promote and protect the right of small and independent business owners to own, operate, and grow their businesses; and

Whereas, grateful for its service to the people of South Carolina, the General Assembly takes great pleasure in recognizing the NFIB on its seventieth anniversary, and the members salute the organization for its fine record of accomplishments. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate the National Federation of Independent Business at the celebration of its seventieth anniversary, commend the organization for its outstanding achievement over the past seventy years, and extend sincere best wishes for continued success.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the National Federation of Independent Business.

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