**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR AIKEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE FOR ITS DEDICATION TO THE CORE VALUES OF INTEGRITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, INNOVATION, AND COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY AND TO CELEBRATE THE COOPERATIVE’S SEVENTY‑FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF PROVIDING OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS IN THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, Aiken Electric Cooperative (AEC), a not‑for‑profit, Touchstone Energy Cooperative, was the first electric cooperative in the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, owned by and accountable to its members, AEC originally served three hundred thirty‑six members and had two hundred twenty‑five miles of line in 1938, and today it boasts service to more than forty‑five thousand people in nine counties with five thousand three hundred miles of line; and

Whereas, Aiken Electric Cooperative CEO Gary Stooksbury and the dedicated trustees and employees work together to provide reliable, competitively priced energy to their members; and

Whereas, the benefits of membership include numerous programs that help to save energy and resources, and members receive capital credits that are tangible gains and returns on their membership; and

Whereas, for the past fifty years, AEC has contributed to the community through instituting youth programs and scholarship opportunities to educate and encourage future community members and leaders and has invested over $9 million in economic development projects within the service territory; and

Whereas, Aiken Electric Cooperative is a leader in the business community and is active in many community and civic organizations, including six chambers of commerce, several Rotary clubs, and Kiwanis; and

Whereas, named the 2008 Large Business of the Year by the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce, AEC has received numerous honors and distinguished recognition for outstanding customer service, stellar fitness programs, excellence in marketing, and superior community service; and

Whereas, along with more than 700 Touchstone Energy partners across the nation, AEC proudly displays the Touchstone Energy symbol as an assurance that it is a community‑minded electric cooperative providing high standards of service for customers large and small; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to celebrate the seventy‑fifth anniversary of the Aiken Electric Cooperative with its many members, diligent trustees, and dedicated employees. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Aiken Electric Cooperative for its dedication to the core values of integrity, accountability, innovation, and commitment to community and celebrate the cooperative’s seventy‑fifth anniversary of providing outstanding service to customers in the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Aiken Electric Cooperative CEO Gary Stooksbury.

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