**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR REVEREND ROBERT A. NORRIS, BOARD MEMBER OF COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER ALMOST FORTY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to Reverend Robert A. Norris for his significant contributions to Columbia International University (CIU); and

Whereas, born in London, Ontario, in Canada, on April 7, 1938, Bob Norris earned a degree in biblical education from Columbia Bible College, now CIU, in 1962; and

Whereas, he has served the thriving congregation of the Church at Sandhurst in Florence as senior pastor for thirty years with devotion and candor; and

Whereas, since February 1974, Reverend Norris has faithfully served on the board of trustees for his alma mater, a tenure that has spanned five decades and four university presidents: Dr. J. Robertson McQuilkin, Dr. Johnny V. Miller, Dr. George W. Murray, and Dr. William H. Jones; and

Whereas, the school was founded out of a deep concern that a group of Christian women had for the spiritual and material needs of South Carolina’s mill workers, and they realized the State needed a school to train students who would minister to these workers; and

Whereas, while a student at CIU, Bob Norris met his beloved wife, Patricia “Anne” Russell Norris, who graduated with a bachelor’s degree in 1960, and they were married on June 6, 1961; and

Whereas, together they reared three fine sons, Robbie, Jeff, and Todd, and are the proud grandparents of five adoring grandchildren; and

Whereas, Reverend Norris has lived and worked, sustained by the quiet and firm assurance found in the words of Christ: “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you”; and

Whereas, as Reverend Norris retires from the board of trustees on May 3, 2013, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly express their profound appreciation for the years of dedicated service that he has devoted to the education of young minds and hearts at Columbia International University and celebrate his retirement along with his colleagues and friends. 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, recognize and honor Reverend Robert A. Norris, board member of Columbia International University, upon the occasion of his retirement after almost forty years of outstanding service, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Robert A. Norris.

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