**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE ED CURRIE OF ROCK HILL ON BEING NEWLY CERTIFIED BY *GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS* FOR GROWING THE WORLD’S HOTTEST CHILI PEPPER.

Whereas, in November 2013, Ed Currie of Rock Hill learned he had realized a longtime dream: the official certification of his Smokin’ Ed’s Carolina Reaper as the world’s hottest chili pepper by *Guinness World Records*; and

Whereas, Ed felt sure the world’s hottest pepper could be grown in York County. With the help of a Winthrop University chemistry professor, Cliff Calloway, and the professor’s students, Ed pursued the Guinness record. The students tested peck after peck of peppers not only to measure their hotness but also to make sure the peppers could be replicated; and

Whereas, on average, Smokin’ Ed’s Carolina Reaper has a Scoville heat unit rating (a measure of the concentration of the chemical compound capsaicin, which produces a heat sensation in the mouth) of 1,569,300. By comparison, jalapeno peppers have a Scoville rating ranging from 2,500 to 8,000; and

Whereas, Guinness proclaimed Ed’s pepper beat out the former recordholder, Trinidad Scorpion Butch T, which has a Scoville rating of 1,000,000 to 1,463,700; and

Whereas, due to wide press coverage of his story, orders for his pepper seeds and other products now have reached more than fifteen hundred orders a day, and Ed is considering expanding his operations. For his success, he gives full credit to the blessing of God; and

Whereas, looking to the future, Ed has some peppers in development he believes are even hotter than Smokin’ Ed’s Carolina Reaper. He is also studying the medicinal powers of peppers, his medicinal research comprising the work of one of nine companies housed at Rock Hill’s technology incubator; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is pleased to pause in its deliberations to applaud Ed Currie on his latest achievement, inclusion in *Guinness World Records* for his Smokin’ Ed’s Carolina Reaper, the world’s hottest chili pepper. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Ed Currie of Rock Hill on being newly certified by *Guinness World Records* for growing the world’s hottest chili pepper.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Ed Currie.

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