**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE THE UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA SHRIMP & GRITS COOK‑OFF IN ANDERSON COUNTY AS THE OFFICIAL SHRIMP & GRITS COOK‑OFF EVENT OF THE PALMETTO STATE FOR 2014 AND TO DESIGNATE SEPTEMBER 25, 2014, AS “SHRIMP & GRITS DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, from personal experience, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives can testify to the delight of that Southern delicacy called shrimp & grits; and

Whereas, both of the major ingredients in this favorite dish are important to South Carolina cuisine and the cultural heritage of our State. Our state’s shrimp industry is legendary, and grits have been a part of Southern culture since the Indians introduced them to Sir Walter Raleigh in 1584 and eventually to the Jamestown, Virginia, colonists; and

Whereas, centuries later, in 1976, the Palmetto State declared the coarsely ground boiled‑corn treat to be its official state food, in recognition of the contribution of grits to the sustenance, culture, economy, and history of South Carolina; and

Whereas, as for the popular dish that combines both ingredients, eating shrimp & grits has been commonplace for generations of South Carolinians. In recent years, it has been served in diners and expensive restaurants alike for any meal of the day. Local eateries compete by varying the flavor while maintaining the basic charm and appeal of the original shrimp & grits dish; and

Whereas, the Upstate honors this heritage each year with an entertaining festival, the Upstate South Carolina Shrimp & Grits Cook‑off. The event brings together area restaurants, who compete with each other for the prize, and the official winner of the cook‑off is credited as having “South Carolina’s Best Shrimp & Grits Recipe”; and

Whereas, in light of these considerations, the House takes great pleasure in saluting the 2014 Upstate South Carolina Shrimp and Grits Cook‑off and in encouraging all South Carolinians to attend and enjoy this family‑friendly event on September 25, 2014. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare the Upstate South Carolina Shrimp & Grits Cook‑off in Anderson County as the official shrimp & grits cook‑off event of the Palmetto State for 2014 and designate September 25, 2014, as “Shrimp & Grits Day” in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce.

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