**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND GROWFOOD CAROLINA FOR ITS OUTSTANDING WORK IN SUPPORTING AND PROMOTING SOUTH CAROLINA’S LOCAL FOOD ECONOMY AND TO WISH THE ORGANIZATION WELL IN ALL ITS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, a project of the Coastal Conservation League, GrowFood Carolina is the first local food hub in South Carolina, serving local farmers within one hundred twenty miles of Charleston; and

Whereas, GrowFood Carolina provides essential planning, warehousing, marketing, and distribution services to help small‑scale local farmers become more profitable; and

Whereas, beginning work with five growers in 2011, GrowFood Carolina serves more than fifty growers today; and

Whereas, in addition, GrowFood Carolina began with just twenty customers and now has more than one hundred twenty local customers, including major retailers and restaurants; and

Whereas, the organization has sold more than $900,000 in local produce and returned more than $750,000 to the farmers of this great State; and

Whereas, GrowFood’s work bestows numerous benefits on the people of the Palmetto State. First, the organization’s support of the local food economy ensures a more resilient and secure food supply in South Carolina; and

Whereas, further, local fresh foods such as GrowFood supplies are integral components of promoting healthy eating and public health; and

Whereas, GrowFood Carolina also supports rural job creation and economic growth, revitalizes rural and urban communities, and boosts our state’s agricultural economy; and

Whereas, GrowFood Carolina serves as the inspiration for a statewide network to support local agriculture, as presented in the South Carolina Department of Agriculture’s *Making Small Farms Big Business* report; and

Whereas, an integral part of improving the quality of life in South Carolina, GrowFood Carolina connects land conservation to food and agriculture, as well as to health and wellness. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend GrowFood Carolina for its outstanding work in supporting and promoting South Carolina’s local food economy and wish the organization well in all its future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to GrowFood Carolina.

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