**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DAVID J. HERRON, CEO AND GENERAL MANAGER OF WEST CAROLINA RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE IN ABBEVILLE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER MORE THAN TWENTY‑SIX 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 Senate of the State of South Carolina should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to David J. Herron for his significant contributions to telecommunications in the Palmetto State as he begins his well‑deserved retirement; and

Whereas, in 1970, he earned a bachelor’s in electrical engineering from the University of Tennessee, and before coming to South Carolina, he served for almost seventeen years with the Rural Electrification Administration, an agency of the federal government; and

Whereas, a licensed professional engineer in the State of South Carolina, Mr. Herron joined West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative (WCTEL) in January 1987 as assistant manager, and in 1988 he became the CEO and general manager; and

Whereas, organized in 1952, WCTEL has fifty‑five employees and provides plain old telephone service (POTS), broadband to everyone, asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL), and video, as well as Internet Protocol television (IPTV), to three counties of the freshwater coast in the State with 14,500 access lines; and

Whereas, in the commitment to build over fourteen hundred miles of fiber over a three‑year period, WCTEL had as many as thirty construction crews at the same time with a fiber‑to‑the‑home build to everyone in the WCTEL service area; and

Whereas, Mr. Herron has served the industry as Region 2 director for the board of directors of NTCA, the Rural Broadband Association; as president of the South Carolina Telephone Association; and on the boards of PalmettoNet, Palmetto MobileNet, South Carolina Telecommunications Group (SPIRIT Telecom), and the Rural Independent Competitive Alliance; and

Whereas, he was honored with the NTCA’s Manager Life Achievement Award for leading WCTEL to achieve unprecedented growth and technological improvements during his twenty‑six‑year tenure; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, Pamela Terrell Herron, “Papa Dave,” as he is lovingly called, plans to spend many happy hours of retirement with their eleven delightful grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the years of dedication that David Herron has devoted to the rural telecommunication industry in South Carolina and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor David J. Herron, CEO and general manager of West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative in Abbeville, upon the occasion of his retirement after more than twenty‑six 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 David J. Herron.

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