**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MR. RALPH S. HENDRICKS OF SIMPSONVILLE UPON RECEIVING THE ORDER OF THE SILVER CRESCENT.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina Senate honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great state’s citizenry; and

Whereas, Ralph S. Hendricks, a Simpsonville philanthropist who has left his mark on the city in myriad ways, including donations for its library and clock tower, has been given the state’s highest award for volunteer and community service; and

Whereas, in February 2013, Mr. Hendricks, 95, was awarded the Order of the Silver Crescent at a meeting of the Simpsonville Rotary Club, where he is a longtime member; and

Whereas, he served on City Council for nearly fifteen years, including twelve years as mayor, and he has been involved in numerous civic improvements; and

Whereas, he was born in Georgia and grew up in the Gray Court area. After serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II, he was a long‑haul truck driver and then went to work for his father‑in‑law in the lumber‑and‑supply business, a business he eventually purchased and developed into one of the largest independent building material suppliers in the Southeast; and

Whereas, Mr. Hendricks served as a Simpsonville City Council member from 1968 to 1971 and as mayor from 1976 to 1988; and

Whereas, he donated land and money to build the Hendricks branch of the Greenville County library on Main Street in Simpsonville; and

Whereas, Mr. Hendricks has served on the board of directors of The Palmetto Bank and the Greenville Tech Foundation and he has been on the board of trustees at Furman University and North Greenville University and a commissioner at ReWa; and

Whereas, in 1986, Mr. Hendricks created the Ralph and Virginia Hendricks Foundation to provide scholarships for Hillcrest High and Woodmont High students who attend Furman University, North Greenville University, Anderson University, and Greenville Tech. The foundation is named in part for his first wife, who died of heart disease. The foundation also makes contributions to charities, including Marietta Baptist Camp, Meals on Wheels, Greenville Rescue Mission, Boy Scouts of America, The Salvation Army, Simpsonville Rotary Club, Boys Home of the South, Golden Strip YMCA, and Home with a Heart; and

Whereas, today Mr. Hendricks still goes to work, managing rental properties and other investments. He and his wife, Marion, are members of Simpsonville First Baptist Church; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for Ralph S. Hendricks, a gracious man whose life has enriched so many in his community and in our beloved State through his outstanding leadership and generosity. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Mr. Ralph S. Hendricks of Simpsonville upon receiving the Order of the Silver Crescent.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mr. Ralph S. Hendricks.

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