**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE VOLUNTEERS OF HOPE IN LANCASTER, INC., FOR THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITY AND TO WISH THEM MUCH SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina Senate recognizes those individuals who give of themselves to the welfare of this great state’s citizenry. Such are the volunteers of HOPE in Lancaster, Inc.; and

Whereas, in 1982, HOPE in Lancaster, Inc., was born of a recognized need for an organization that would help Lancaster County citizens in crisis situations. For HOPE in Lancaster, Inc., the goal is the same today as it was in 1982: to provide cooperative short‑term emergency assistance to local residents; and

Whereas, HOPE in Lancaster, Inc., first opened its doors on February 28, 1983. In the nine months after the very first meeting until the doors were opened, building space, office equipment, supplies, and a freezer and refrigerators were secured, and the food pantry was fully stocked through generous donations from the residents, churches, and businesses of Lancaster County, all at no cost to HOPE; and

Whereas, all this could not have been accomplished without the invaluable contributions of HOPE’s dedicated volunteers; and

Whereas, volunteers are a critical part of how HOPE operates. In any given year, 125 local volunteers donate approximately ten thousand hours of service. These volunteers are committed to serving in the heart of the community through HOPE in Lancaster, Inc. Because of their selfless service, in 2015 HOPE was able to supply more than four thousand families or individuals with financial assistance and almost three thousand families or individuals with food resources; and

Whereas, HOPE’s volunteers have been, and continue to be, the organization’s advocates and ambassadors. It is only through their partnership with HOPE that it can continue Helping Other People Effectively; and

Whereas, the Senate recognizes that the success of the State of South Carolina and the strength of its communities depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like the volunteers of HOPE in Lancaster, Inc., who use their talents and resources to serve others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, commend the volunteers of HOPE in Lancaster, Inc., for their dedicated service to their community and wish them much success and fulfillment in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the volunteers of HOPE in Lancaster, Inc.

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