**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE FORT MILL FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE VALUABLE PUBLIC SERVICE IT RENDERS TO ITS COMMUNITY EVERY DAY AND TO CONGRATULATE THE DEPARTMENT AT THE CELEBRATION OF ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Fort Mill Fire Department is celebrating its one hundredth anniversary in January 2015; and

Whereas, on January 5, 1915, Fort Mill Town Council adopted an ordinance providing for the organization of the Fort Mill Fire Department and the inspection of premises, implementing the salaries of firefighters and defining the duties and authority of the chief of the fire department; and

Whereas, under the leadership of S.W. Parks, the first chief, the fledgling fire department began operations with a hose, hose reels, two white rubber coats, thirteen black rubber coats, fourteen sou’westers, one aluminum helmet, and fifteen pairs of boots; and

Whereas, today, this respected community institution operates with two engines, two ladder trucks, and modern fire and medical equipment; and

Whereas, the Fort Mill Fire Department has been housed in a number of places, most significantly at a fire station on Academy Street, the current station on Tom Hall Street, and a substation on Dobys Bridge Road. From these sites, the station faithfully has served the community, including during numerous historical events such as the Fort Mill Spring Plant fire in 1988, the fire at First Baptist Church, and the helicopter takeoff and landing of President Bill Clinton when he visited Fort Mill in 1994; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Chief Jeffrey Hooper, the present staff members of the Fort Mill Fire Department work every day to provide the best emergency service possible, following proudly in the footsteps of their worthy predecessors; and

Whereas, cognizant that the department’s value to the community it serves is incalculable, the House of Representatives takes great pleasure in saluting the Fort Mill Fire Department on one hundred years of fine service to the citizens of Fort Mill. 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 honor the Fort Mill Fire Department for the valuable public service it renders to its community every day and congratulate the department at the celebration of its one hundredth anniversary.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Fort Mill Fire Department.

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