**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY ON ITS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS, TO HONOR THE INSTITUTION’S COMMITMENT TO QUALITY EDUCATION, TO WISH CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ALL OF THE SCHOOL’S FUTURE ENDEAVORS, AND TO RECOGNIZE MARCH 3, 2015, AS CLEMSON DAY IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, Clemson University was founded in 1889 through a bequest to the State of South Carolina from Thomas Green Clemson, a Philadelphia‑born, European‑educated engineer, musician, and artist who married John C. Calhoun’s daughter, Anna, and settled at her family estate in South Carolina; and

Whereas, Clemson’s campus is the entire State of South Carolina. The university has a presence in every county in the Palmetto State, agriculture research centers from the piedmont to the coast, and youth programs that serve more than one hundred thousand young people per year, as well as enterprise campuses devoted to innovation and economic development in Anderson, Greenville, Greenwood, and North Charleston to support both existing and emerging industry clusters ranging from agribusiness and manufacturing to aviation and advanced materials; and

Whereas, Clemson University now ranks as one of the “Top 20” public universities in America and also has earned top rankings for graduation rates, value, efficiency, and return on investment. Further, the school maintains an outstanding student experience that has earned “Top 5” rankings for quality of life, happiest students, students who love their college, town‑gown relations (#1), alumni network (#1), and “most fun college in America”; and

Whereas, Clemson University enrolls more than 21,000 undergraduate and graduate students and has more than 137,000 alumni, with nearly 66,000 living in South Carolina; and

Whereas, Clemson University’s economic impact on the State of South Carolina in 2013, the year of the most recent study, generated approximately $1.9 billion in economic output and accounted for nearly twenty‑five thousand jobs and a net return to state taxpayers of $81.8 million; and

Whereas, Clemson University is part of a national system of land‑grant universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, providing statewide research, extension, and regulatory programs (Public Service Activities) to enhance economic growth in South Carolina’s agribusiness and forestry industries through a continuous flow of knowledge to farmers, foresters, and land managers; and

Whereas, for one hundred twenty‑five years, Clemson University has continued to fulfill the covenant between its founder and the people of South Carolina as a “high seminary of learning.” The school also continues to improve the economy of the State through its historical land‑grant responsibilities of teaching, research, and extended public service. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Clemson University on its outstanding achievements, honor the institution’s commitment to quality education, wish continued success in all of the school’s future endeavors, and recognize March 3, 2015, as Clemson Day in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to James P. Clements, Ph.D., president of Clemson University.

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