**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR HOPE HARVARD FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL POISE, TALENT, AND BEAUTY AND TO CONGRATULATE HER FOR BEING NAMED MISS SOUTH CAROLINA TEEN FOR 2014.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Hope Harvard was crowned the 2014 Miss South Carolina Teen; and

Whereas, a resident of Easley and the seventeen‑year‑old daughter of Clay and Melanie Elrod, the new Miss South Carolina Teen is an honor student and will be graduating as a junior this year from the South Carolina Virtual Charter School (SCVCS); and

Whereas, she plans to attend Clemson University next year using scholarships awarded to her by the Miss America system through receiving the preliminary talent award, the evening gown award, and the Rachel Yuki Wyatt Dance Award. Her total scholarship earnings were twelve thousand five hundred dollars at the state level, along with the in‑kind scholarships awarded to each state contestant at the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen pageant; and

Whereas, at the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen pageant, she was named the Ad Sales Winner and raised the second largest amount for the Children’s Miracle Network Hospital fundraiser; and

Whereas, Hope became involved with the Miss South Carolina program at the age of six as a Palmetto Princess, where she was introduced to giving back to her community by her mentor, a contestant in the Miss South Carolina pageant. She began a program called “Letters of Hope,” letters of encouragement to children whose parents served in the military. For the next ten years, Hope continued to expand her platform which has become “Giving H.O.P.E.‑Helping Others with Positive Encouragement”; and

Whereas, she enjoys telling children how they can give H.O.P.E. by using the acronym: “H” for lending a helping hand, “O” for offering thanks, “P” for having a positive attitude, and “E” for encouraging others through actions; and

Whereas, for the past two years, Hope has also declared the “Day of Hope,” one in Lyman and the other Easley, as a day of volunteerism for small towns to join with the United Way and community centers to provide needed services. She recruited teen volunteers from local schools through the Beta Club and National Honor Society; and

Whereas, with over one thousand five hundred hours of service, she has been awarded the Presidential Gold Medal Service Award for the past six years; and

Whereas, Hope is a member of Beta Club, National Society of High School Scholars, and National Honor Society. She has been named to the Principal’s List and Lettered in Academics, and she was selected SCVCS student of the month and received a gold medal for the Duke of Edinburgh Award; and

Whereas, Hope enjoys dancing competitively; traveling the state; spending time with her family and her pug, Betty Boop; and mentoring her three princesses: Emily, Abree, and Emma; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the outstanding contributions that Hope Harvard is making as she represents the Palmetto State in her role as Miss South Carolina Teen 2014, and the members look to hear of her ongoing accomplishments in the future. 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 Hope Harvard for her exceptional poise, talent, and beauty and congratulate her for being named Miss South Carolina Teen for 2014.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Hope Harvard.

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