**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SUMTER PACKAGING CORPORATION AND TO CONGRATULATE THE COMPANY’S EXECUTIVES AND EMPLOYEES FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR THE PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Sumter Packaging Corporation was awarded the national Technologist of the Year Award from the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI) and the Paper Industry Management Association (PIMA); and

Whereas, TAPPI, the leading association for the pulp, paper, packaging, tissue, and converting industries worldwide, celebrated its one hundredth anniversary recently in Atlanta where the presentation was made for the work Sumter Packaging has done with Amtech, a Pennsylvania‑based technology company; and

Whereas, the Technologist of the Year Award recognizes a member of a technology or IT team from a paper or paper‑converting company who has best demonstrated outstanding leadership, management, and organizational skills leading to improved results at the facility or enterprise for which he or she is responsible; and

Whereas, longtime Sumter Packaging employee Jimmy Ezell spearheaded the projects with Amtech that led to Sumter Packaging’s recognition as national Technologist of the Year; and

Whereas, founded in 1958 as Kankakee Container Company in Kankakee, Illinois, the company expanded to its present location in Sumter in 1981; and

Whereas, in 1999, Sumter Packaging expanded to Orangeburg with a customer service center and again in Charlotte, North Carolina, with the acquisition of Queen City Container there in 2002; and

Whereas, Sumter Packaging manufactures and markets corrugated packaging, displays, stand‑ups, digital printing fulfillment, and assembly, and specializes in plastic corrugated and combinations of wood and foam on corrugated; and

Whereas, the one hundred twenty employees of Sumter Packaging serve over one thousand five hundred customers in North and South Carolina, Virginia, and Eastern Georgia; and

Whereas, a family‑owned business for three generations, Sumter Packaging has served its customers through personal service and quality products with fast, dependable delivery and has been committed to continuous improvement for over fifty years; and

Whereas, for outstanding service and products, Sumter Packaging has been honored as Manufacturer of the Year for the State of South Carolina and has received the Manufacturer of the Year Award in two of the last five years for Sumter County; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the standard of excellence set by Sumter Packaging Corporation and for the pride and recognition the company has brought to the Palmetto State. 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 Sumter Packaging Corporation and congratulate the company’s executives and employees for receiving the national Technologist of the Year Award for the pulp and paper industry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Ben DeSollar, President of Sumter Packaging Corporation.

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