**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO THANK EUGENE AND KATHY ICKES FOR THEIR TIRELESS COMMITMENT TO OPERATING CREATIVE COOKERY FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS AS THIS SUMTER COUNTY BUSINESS CLOSES ITS DOORS AFTER ALMOST TWENTY‑SEVEN YEARS OF SERVING THE CITIZENS OF SUMTER COUNTY AND CUSTOMERS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives regret to learn that Creative Cookery will close its doors in June 2015, after almost twenty‑seven years of serving the Sumter community; and

Whereas, the store offers for sale a sundry of kitchen items that include cooking gadgets, knives, and a wide array of cooking utensils used by cuisine‑making lovers. The store also sells a variety of coffees and teas; and

Whereas, Eugene and Kathy Ickes, its owners, are proud to proclaim that Creative Cookery has been “the place for kitchen items in the Sumter area for many years”; and

Whereas, Dan and Betty Gibbs opened Creative Cookery in October 1988, on Guignard Drive in Sumter before moving it to its current location on Bultman Drive three years later; and

Whereas, Eugene and Kathy Ickes purchased this establishment from Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs in 2005, after reading an article in the *Sumter Item* about the store’s pending sale; and

Whereas, the Ickes, who had never operated a business, believed that running the Creative Cookery would be challenging and a business opportunity; and

Whereas, since 2005, Mr. and Mrs. Ickes have provided their customers with top-notch service and high quality merchandise, most of it made in the United States; and

Whereas, their business has developed a clientele that spans the nation; and

Whereas, after nearly ten years of success with the business, Eugene and Kathy Ickes have decided that it was time for them to retire and close their business; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives wish to acknowledge the tremendous impact that Creative Cookery has had on the Sumter community and our nation for almost twenty‑seven years. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representative, by this resolution, thank Eugene and Kathy Ickes for their tireless commitment to operating Creative Cookery for the past ten years as this Sumter County business closes its doors after almost twenty‑seven years of serving the citizens of Sumter County and customers from around the country.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Eugene and Kathy Ickes.

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