**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE COLE HARPER OF RICHLAND COUNTY UPON HIS RECENT GRADUATION SUMMA CUM LAUDE FROM COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, TO THANK HIM FOR HIS FINE SERVICE AS A PAGE TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO WISH HIM GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Cole Harper of Richland County, having successfully completed a course of study in Bible, youth ministry, family, and culture, earned his bachelor’s degree in only three years and graduated summa cum laude from Columbia International University (CIU) in May 2015; and

Whereas, the son of Lem and Brenda Harper of Richland County and grandson of former South Carolina House member C. Lem Harper, Sr., Cole has consistently proved himself an exceptional student. During his years at Richland Northeast High, a magnet school, he was named a National Merit finalist. As a well‑rounded young man, he also ran cross country, played on the golf team, and became involved with Young Life, a Christian ministry to teens; and

Whereas, after being recruited by colleges and universities across the country, this young man of strong Christian faith chose to attend CIU, where he continued to excel academically, making the Dean’s List every semester and being inducted into Delta Epsilon Chi Honor Society. In addition, he was selected as the 2014 South Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities Sterling L. Smith Scholar and was awarded a CIU Board Scholarship for his academic excellence and servant leadership, as well as the school’s Gold Card Scholarship and Alumni Referral Scholarship; and

Whereas, while he necessarily spent many hours of his college career studying, Cole Harper still found time to work for the Koger Center, Young Life, and the South Carolina House of Representatives, where he served as a most diligent page. During his summer months, Cole attended Invasion Leadership School, sponsored by the Harvest Church; and

Whereas, Cole currently serves as a leader of Richland School District Two’s Young Life high school groups and soon will be leaving for a mission trip to Trinidad and Guyana; and

Whereas, underlying everything in Cole Harper’s life is this Scripture: “The fear of the Lord *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding” (Proverbs 9:10, KJV); and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the dedication to excellence in academics and service exhibited in the lives of outstanding students like Cole Harper, and the members look with interest to hear of his continued accomplishments in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Cole Harper of Richland County upon his recent graduation summa cum laude from Columbia International University, thank him for his fine service as a page to the South Carolina House of Representatives, and wish him God’s richest blessings in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Cole Harper.

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