**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016, AS “UNCLAIMED PROPERTY DAY” AND, IN DOING SO, URGE ALL CITIZENS TO UTILIZE THE OFFICE OF STATE TREASURER’S DATABASE TO SEARCH FOR UNCLAIMED PROPERTY FOR THEMSELVES, THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILY, AND THEIR BUSINESSES.

Whereas, the principle of the holding of unclaimed property by a government for its citizens is based in English Common Law; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Office of State Treasurer serves as the custodian for currently more than $503 million in unclaimed funds belonging to citizens and businesses across South Carolina; and

Whereas, the State Treasurer’s Office Unclaimed Property Program safeguards unclaimed wages, checks, credit balances, bank accounts, utility deposits, insurance proceeds, money orders, travelers checks, and stocks and dividends; and

Whereas, rightful owners of unclaimed property, or their heirs, always have the right to claim property that is held in custody by the State Treasurer’s Office; and

Whereas, holding unclaimed property for and returning it to the citizens and businesses of South Carolina is an important function of state government. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare Wednesday, February 17, 2016, as “Unclaimed Property Day” and, in so doing, urge all citizens to utilize the Office of State Treasurer’s database to search for unclaimed property for themselves, their friends and family, and their businesses.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Curtis M. Loftis, Jr., Treasurer of South Carolina.

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