**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA ON THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF ITS GOLD AWARD, GIRL SCOUTING’S HIGHEST HONOR, AND TO APPLAUD THE GIRL SCOUT ORGANIZATION AND ALL ITS GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS WHO HAVE MADE MEANINGFUL AND SUSTAINABLE CHANGE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND AROUND THE WORLD OVER THE PAST ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

Whereas, in Girl Scouting, the year 2016 marks “Celebrating One Hundred Years of Changing the World.” Since 1916, Girl Scouts’ highest honor, the Gold Award, has stood for excellence and leadership for girls everywhere. Girls who pursue the Gold Award aspire to transform an idea and vision for change into an actionable plan with far‑reaching results; and

Whereas, the Gold Award requires girls in grades 9‑12 to make a measurable and sustainable difference in their communities through assessing a need, designing a solution, and, through completion of their project, inspiring others to sustain it; and

Whereas, according to the 2015 Girl Scout Research Institute study, *The Power of the Girl Scout Gold Award: Excellence in Leadership and Life*, Gold Award recipients exhibit a greater sense of self, life satisfaction, leadership opportunities and participation, and community service and civic engagement compared with those who have never participated in Girl Scouting; and

Whereas, by the time a Girl Scout begins work on her Gold Award, she is well prepared to serve as a leader. Through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, a collection of activities and experiences Girl Scouts enjoy as they earn badges, sell cookies, go on exciting trips, explore the outdoors, and accomplish Take Action projects, all Girl Scouts develop a solid foundation in leadership. Through the dedication, time, and talents of many volunteers, the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is brought to more than fifteen thousand girls in grades K‑12 across the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, appreciative of the experiences Girl Scouting provides South Carolina’s young women, the House takes great pleasure in congratulating the Girl Scout organization at the centennial anniversary of its Gold Award. The members also wish to express their grateful thanks to the Girl Scouts presently serving as pages on the House floor for their time and diligent labors. Thank you for exemplifying the Girl Scout motto, “Be prepared.” Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Girl Scouts of the USA on the centennial anniversary of its Gold Award, Girl Scouting’s highest honor, and applaud the Girl Scout organization and all its Gold Award recipients who have made meaningful and sustainable change in their communities and around the world over the past one hundred years.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Girl Scouts presently serving as pages on the House floor.

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