**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY’S NATIONAL ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP THROUGH THEIR ENERGY EDUCATION SERIES POWERING AMERICA‑AN ENERGY EDUCATION.

Whereas, Coastal Carolina University, School of Coastal and Marine Systems Science, in coordination with the Edgar Dyer Institute for Leadership and Public Policy has demonstrated national academic leadership through their Powering America‑An Energy Education series; and

Whereas, through their scientific policy education efforts in the Coastal and Marine Science Systems graduate program, the university has taken a vanguard position in bridging sound science and thoughtful policy; and

Whereas, Professor Thomas S. Mullikin and his students have led the way through experiential learning examinations which include meetings in the White House with senior presidential staff, senior congressional staff, senior non‑governmental organization staff, industry leaders, and various critical stakeholders; and

Whereas, abundant, available, and cost‑effective energy in South Carolina is critical. Per capita retail sales of electricity in South Carolina are greater than the national median, in part because of high air‑conditioning demand during the hot summer months and the widespread use of electricity for home heating in winter; and

Whereas, South Carolina must continue to seek well‑considered energy policy. Coastal Carolina’s Powering America Series has brought meaningful academic examinations beginning with a Wind Symposium followed by a thorough review of the possibilities and challenges of natural gas production and usage in the United States; and

Whereas, according to the United States Energy Information Administration, in 2013, renewable energy resources accounted for five percent of South Carolina’s net electricity generation; almost fifty‑nine percent of that generation came from conventional hydroelectric power. Fifty‑seven percent of the state’s net electricity generation in 2013 was supplied by the four existing nuclear power plants in the state. Two new reactors are currently under construction at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station site in Fairfield County; and

Whereas, Coastal Carolina University, and in particular the Coastal and Marine Systems Science graduate program has brought together some of the nation’s leading thought leaders to examine how South Carolina and the nation can power America in the most environmentally protective, abundant, and cost‑effective fashion for families and businesses across South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Coastal Carolina University’s national academic leadership through their Energy Education series Power America‑an Energy Education.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Coastal Carolina University.

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