**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE ARTHUR BERNARD CARTIER FOR WINNING THE 2015 SENATOR FOR A DAY SPEECH CONTEST SPONSORED BY SENATOR CLEMENTA PINCKNEY OF JASPER COUNTY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to welcome Arthur Bernard Cartier to the State House as the winner of the 2015 Senator for a Day Speech Contest, sponsored by the Honorable Clementa Pinckney, Senator of District 45; and

Whereas, as a sophomore at Thomas Heyward Academy from Ridgeland, Arthur’s favorite subjects include history, English, and Spanish, and his hobbies range from soccer and personal fitness to electronic media, metal detecting, and public speaking; and

Whereas, in his speech that won the Senator for a Day Contest, Arthur Cartier examined the state’s highway system, one of the largest state‑owned systems in the nation, which ranks fourth among the fifty states in efficiency and usage and forty‑eighth in the amount of revenue used to repair the roads and the infrastructure; and

Whereas, annual costs to drivers in the State due to road‑related damages range between eight hundred and a thousand dollars per resident, a total of three billion dollars, and insurance fees in South Carolina are the highest in the nation, adding a further financial burden to citizens; and

Whereas, the Department of Transportation estimates that a minimum of one and a half billion dollars would be needed annually to maintain and repair the state’s highway infrastructure, a savings of one and a half billion dollars over the damages incurred by our citizens due to faulty roads; and

Whereas, Arthur recommended adding a road usage tax at the gas pump or a luxury tax to liquor and cigarettes, specifically for the maintenance and repair of roads; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate appreciates the thoughtful attention and energetic consideration that Arthur Cartier has given to the issues involved in road maintenance and repair in the Palmetto State, and the members welcome him to the State House as the 2015 Senator for a Day. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and congratulate Arthur Bernard Cartier for winning the 2015 Senator for a Day Speech Contest sponsored by Senator Clementa Pinckney of Jasper County.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Arthur Bernard Cartier.

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