**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR FLOYD L. KEELS, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF SANTEE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO THANK HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, since 1998, Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc., has enjoyed the benefit of the dedication, experience, and leadership of Floyd L. Keels, president and chief executive officer, who in July 2015 will retire after seventeen years of distinguished service to the company; and

Whereas, in preparation for his career, this South Carolina native attended the University of Wisconsin, Sumter Area Technical College, and the University of South Carolina and earned his bachelor’s degree in business management, followed by a master’s degree in business administration with honors from Golden Gate University; and

Whereas, as an established veteran with more than forty years in the electric utilities industry, he oversees planning, organizing, and directing the day‑to‑day operations of the cooperative, which provides power to nearly forty‑five thousand accounts in Clarendon, Florence, Georgetown, and Williamsburg counties; and

Whereas, Mr. Keels joined Santee Electric in April 1998 as the assistant general manager, bringing with him twenty‑five years of responsible experience in operations, management, and leadership positions from Progress Energy’s predecessor, Carolina Power & Light. He assumed responsibilities as president and chief executive officer for Santee Electric in May 1999; and

Whereas, believing strongly in active involvement in his community and profession, he is a board member of First Citizens BancShares, Inc., Central Electric Power Cooperative, Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina, Rotary Club of Lake City, North Eastern Strategic Alliance, Francis Marion University, and Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church of Sumter. He is a past board member of the Coker College Board of Trustees, Exchange Bank of South Carolina, First Citizens Bancorporation of South Carolina, Francis Marion University Foundation, and Lower Florence County Hospital. A decorated military veteran, he was appointed in 2003 by Governor Mark Sanford to serve on the Commission on Management, Accountability, and Performance; and

Whereas, Floyd Keels finds strength for his labors in the strong support of his family: his wife, Bessie, and their son and granddaughter; and

Whereas, the Senate, grateful for the legacy of consistent commitment and excellence Floyd Keels has bestowed on the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in wishing him well as he enters retirement and trusts he will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor Floyd L. Keels, president and chief executive officer of Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc., on the occasion of his retirement, thank him for his many years of outstanding service to the people of South Carolina, and wish him much success and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Floyd L. Keels.

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