**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON ON ITS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS, TO CELEBRATE THE COLLEGE’S HIGH‑QUALITY ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS, TO HONOR THE LONG‑LASTING IMPRESSION THE COLLEGE HAS HAD ON CHARLESTON AND BEYOND, AND TO RECOGNIZE FEBRUARY 8, 2017, AS “COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON DAY” AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Whereas, founded in 1770, the College of Charleston (the College) is the oldest institution of higher education in South Carolina and the first municipal college in the country. It is the thirteenth‑oldest university in the United States; and

Whereas, the College continues to be a nationally preeminent, comprehensive public university deeply rooted in the liberal arts and sciences, carrying out its public mission to serve more than 11,000 undergraduate and graduate students and more than 80,000 alumni; and

Whereas, the College’s alumni, throughout the years, have had a profound impact on the institution and the world. Former students and alumni include Robert Mills, architect of the Washington Monument; John C. Frémont, the first Republican presidential candidate; and Judge J. Waties Waring, the federal judge who set the legal stage for the Civil Rights Movement. The College’s founders are also noteworthy. Three of the founders signed the Declaration of Independence: Thomas Heyward, Jr., Arthur Middleton, and Edward Rutledge; and another three helped frame the U.S. Constitution: Charles Pinckney, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, and John Rutledge; and

Whereas, the College of Charleston Alumni Association has been in continuous operation since June 13, 1888. It provides scholarships to current students and serves its forty alumni chapters across the world with numerous programs throughout the year; and

Whereas, the College boasts several unique academic programs such as a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and programs that have no counterpart elsewhere in the State, including an accelerated one‑year, full‑time day M.B.A. program, undergraduate meteorology program, and supply chain management undergraduate program; and

Whereas, highly acclaimed, the College has been ranked by *Forbes* magazineas number seven on the list of the Top 25 Best Value Colleges in the United States. Among other accolades, *The Princeton Review* has recognized the College for fourteen years in a row, naming it one of the top colleges and universities in the southeast and citing the College in several other categories; and

Whereas, the College boasts a sports program whose student athletes have had an impressive combined 3.0 grade point average or better the last eleven out of twelve semesters. Along with several other exalted sports’ teams, the College has a nationally‑ranked men’s basketball program and a sailing program; and

Whereas, the College of Charleston continues to be a source of pride for its faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, and friends. Providing a world‑class student experience that prepares its students to be leaders in our global society, the College enriches the City of Charleston, and South Carolina as a whole. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate the College of Charleston on its outstanding achievements, celebrate the College’s high‑quality academics and athletics, honor the long‑lasting impression the College has had on Charleston and beyond, and recognize February 8, 2017, as “College of Charleston Day” at the State House.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Glenn F. McConnell, president of the College of Charleston.

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