**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE, RECOGNIZE, AND HONOR ELECTRIC UTILITY LINEMEN FOR THE ROLE THEY HAVE IN BUILDING, MAINTAINING, AND RESTORING IMPORTANT ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND ACROSS THE NATION.

Whereas, reliable electricity has become an indispensable part of the health, welfare, and prosperity of our society; and

Whereas, linemen work with thousands of volts of electricity high atop power lines twenty‑four hours a day, three hundred sixty‑five days a year, to keep electricity flowing, which requires the combined efforts of a well‑trained and dedicated group of professionals; and

Whereas, linemen are often first responders during storms and other catastrophic events, working to make the scene safe for other public safety heroes; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Public Safety Authority, municipal power systems, investor‑owned electric providers, and the state’s power systems rely upon more than two thousand line workers to keep our state’s power systems working properly; and

Whereas, linemen must often work under dangerous conditions far from their families to construct, maintain, and repair the energy infrastructure of South Carolina; and

Whereas thanking linemen is especially important in light of the crippling storms that have impacted South Carolina for three consecutive years: Ice Storm Pax; the 1000‑year rain and corresponding flood, and Hurricane Matthew; and

Whereas, these unsung heroes of our modern world quietly perform their duties without fanfare or recognition from the general public as they continue to put their lives on the line every day so that we have electricity to keep our businesses running, our homes safe and comfortable, and our lives productive. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representative, by this resolution, congratulate, recognize, and honor electric utility linemen for the role they have in building, maintaining, and restoring important electrical infrastructure in South Carolina and across the nation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the linemen honored at the State House on May 2, 2017.

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