**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR TIDELANDS HEALTH FOR ITS SIGNIFICANT AND BENEFICIAL IMPACT ON THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF THE CITIZENS OF GEORGETOWN COUNTY.

Whereas, Tidelands Health is the region’s largest health care provider with three hospitals, more than two thousand physician and employee partners, and nearly fifty locations in a region that stretches from Andrews to North Myrtle Beach; and

Whereas, a volunteer board of trustees leads the not‑for‑profit health system and guides it according to its mission of helping people live better lives through better health and according to its vision of being the region’s first choice for health and wellness; and

Whereas, Tidelands Health is Georgetown County’s largest private employer and, according to a recent study by Coastal Carolina University, contributed more than five hundred million dollars in economic impact to Georgetown and Horry counties in 2016; and

Whereas, in fiscal year 2016, Tidelands Health facilities recorded some 420,000 outpatient visits, some 65,000 emergency department visits, more than 8,000 surgeries, and nearly 12,000 admissions; and

Whereas, also in fiscal year 2016, Tidelands Health provided 12.5 million dollars in community benefit, including 9.3 million dollars in uncompensated care; 1.7 million dollars for community‑based screenings and support services; 800,000 dollars in donations to local organizations; 400,000 dollars in training and education for health care professionals; and 300,000 dollars in community health education. Additionally, Tidelands Health employee partners contributed 22,000 volunteer hours to the communities served by the health system; and

Whereas, in fiscal year 2016, Tidelands Community Care Network, a public‑private collaborative between Tidelands Health and more than thirty community service organizations, assisted 1,326 uninsured individuals in the region, providing access to 1,002 primary care visits and 240 behavioral health visits and filling 6,764 medication prescriptions; and

Whereas, among their numerous honors for safety and quality, Tidelands Health hospitals have been named one of the nation’s top ninety‑eight hospitals, one of the hundred best hospitals in America for orthopedic surgery and prostate surgery, one of the nation’s top one hundred rural and community hospitals, number one in the State for women’s health, in the top ten percent nationally for spinal fusion and spinal surgery, and in the top five percent nationally for outstanding patient experience; and

Whereas, Tidelands Health hospitals are certified by the Joint Commission for joint replacement, childbirth, spine surgery, and advanced primary stroke care and are designated Baby Friendly; and

Whereas, Georgetown Memorial Hospital is an accredited chest pain center, and both Tidelands Waccamaw Community Hospital and Tidelands Georgetown Memorial Hospital have achieved the Pathway to Excellence designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, which recognizes them as outstanding places for nurses to work; and

Whereas, Bruce Bailey, Tidelands Health president and CEO, serves as a member of the national board of trustees for the American Hospital Association, and Dr. Gerald Harmon, a longtime Tidelands Health physician, is the national chair‑elect of the American Medical Association. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Tidelands Health for its significant and beneficial impact on the health and wellness of the citizens of Georgetown County.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to President and CEO Bruce Bailey on May 4, 2017.

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