**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR TOM JOYNER, SYNDICATED RADIO PERSONALITY, ENTREPRENEUR, AND PHILANTHROPIST, FOR HIS LEGENDARY PROGRAM *THE TOM JOYNER MORNING SHOW* AND TO WELCOME HIM TO THE PALMETTO STATE AS THE SPECIAL GUEST OF THE 2019 KING LEGACY GALA IN GREENVILLE.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Tom Joyner will be celebrated for his tireless work to uplift communities and for his avid support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, as he is honored with the 2019 King Legacy Gala Trailblazer Award in Greenville on January 12, 2019; and

Whereas, one of the most illustrious and recognized media icons in the country today, Mr. Joyner hosts the nationally syndicated radio program *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*, empowering and entertaining some eight million listeners each week on over one hundred five stations nationwide; and

Whereas, a graduate of the Tuskegee Institute, Mr. Joyner started his career in radio broadcasting at WRMA in Montgomery, Alabama, followed by broadcast work in Memphis, St. Louis, and Dallas, and he finally made his home at WJPC in Chicago; and

Whereas, in the mid‑1980s when he flew between Dallas, where he aired his morning‑drive program at KKDA, and Chicago, commuting north to WGCI for his afternoon program, he earned the nickname “The Fly Jock”; and

Whereas, his attention‑grabbing, on‑air style and his daily travels drew publicity and high ratings, and in 1994, ABC Radio networks nationally syndicated *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*; and

Whereas, in 2003, he made *The Tom Joyner Morning Show* part of his newly created Reach Media, a cross‑platform entertainment company that creates online content with BlackAmericaWeb.com, events and initiatives that engage Black America; and

Whereas, known as the “Hardest Working Man in Radio,” he has successfully led national awareness campaigns on education, voter registration laws, and family/health initiatives, all with a daily mix of entertainment, humor, information, and music; and

Whereas, The Tom Joyner Foundation supports students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities, while his destination events, such as The Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion, with thousands of people in attendance on Labor Day weekend, and The Tom Joyner Foundation Fantastic Voyage Cruise selling out annually, have demonstrated the power of the black consumer/traveler; and

Whereas his catchy yet poignant slogan, “The Party with a Purpose,” focuses his morning show and activities on entertainment, information, and empowering the community to action; and

Whereas, numerous honors during his career have recognized his industry and community leadership, including *Impact* magazine’s Joe Loris Award for Excellence in Broadcasting, *Billboard*’*s* Best Urban Contemporary Air Personality Award, the NAACP Image Award, the National Association of Broadcaster’s Marconi Award, honorary doctorates, and induction into the Radio Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, the Senate of the State of South Carolina appreciates Tom Joyner’s standard of excellence and commitment to public service and warmly welcomes this radio broadcast legend to our great State for the 2019 King Legacy Gala in Greenville. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Tom Joyner, syndicated radio personality, entrepreneur, and philanthropist, for his legendary program *The Tom Joyner Morning Show* and to welcome him to the Palmetto State as the special guest of the 2019 King Legacy Gala in Greenville.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Tom Joyner.

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