**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE OCCASION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF WEST PELZER AND TO CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND MAYOR BLAKE SANDERS AND THE CITIZENS OF WEST PELZER FOR A CENTURY OF SHOWCASING BOTH THE BEAUTY AND PROGRESS OF THIS CHARMING SOUTH CAROLINA TOWN.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to join the Town of West Pelzer in celebrating the milestone of its one hundredth anniversary; and

Whereas, West Pelzer, with its rich history as a healthy place to live, work, and play, is forever being revitalized, rejuvenated, and re‑energized through new businesses and growth of its core values and vision. Located in the heart of Upstate South Carolina, about thirty minutes away from many major cities, including Greenville, Anderson, and Easley, West Pelzer has a population of almost one thousand citizens; and

Whereas, this Anderson County town was chartered in 1913 as the Town of Frankville, less than a quarter mile from Pelzer. It was named after the original surveyor of the town, John Franks, and was established thirty‑two years after the Town of Pelzer as a municipality allowing free enterprise and as a vehicle in ensuring a town of law and order; and

Whereas, in 1918, Frankville was renamed West Pelzer. The town holds true to its history, both in community and design, with the street layout in the older portions of town still following the original street plat and with the historic homes and businesses adorning the area serving as reminders of the past; and

Whereas, since January 2016, West Pelzer has invested more than one million dollars in its Main Street. The resulting project, the Town of West Pelzer Municipal Center, was completed with the assistance of many dedicated volunteers who gave untold hours to the work; and

Whereas, a favorite feature of the town is its designation as a bird sanctuary. In 1940, the Town of West Pelzer was established by ordinance as an official bird sanctuary, and in 2016 the town was able to further its reputation as a birders’ destination when it won the Hughes Investments Elevate Upstate Grant. The grant enabled the town to enact its Expand Your Wings program, which is both an educational venture and an art installation that allows residents, visitors, and passersby to become like a bird, expand their wings, learn new things, and fly as high as they can. The program is also designed to highlight the vibrancy of the growing West Pelzer community and the connection to local bird species. A key part of the program is the Expand Your Wings Walking Tour, which also draws attention to the accessibility of the town’s ADA‑compliant sidewalks and encourages the townspeople to take a walk and enjoy the aesthetics of West Pelzer; and

Whereas, the House takes great pleasure in saluting the Town of West Pelzer as it honors its past, celebrates its present, and looks with enthusiasm toward its future, and the members extend heartiest congratulations on the city’s centennial commemoration. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, celebrate the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the Town of West Pelzer and congratulate and commend Mayor Blake Sanders and the citizens of West Pelzer for a century of showcasing both the beauty and progress of this charming South Carolina town.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mayor Blake Sanders on behalf of the Town of West Pelzer.

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