**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND VIC BAILEY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP OF SPARTANBURG FOR A HALF‑CENTURY OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO EXTEND WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEALERSHIP’S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the Vic Bailey Automotive Group has established a fifty-year tradition of salesmanship and service in Spartanburg and is set to continue its proud legacy; and

Whereas, in 1969, Vic Bailey, Jr., moved from Greenville to Spartanburg to open his first dealership, Vic Bailey Lincoln, on West Main Street. At that time, a six‑cylinder Chevy Nova Sedan cost $2,329; a Ford Fairlane hardtop sold for $2,482; a Buick LeSabre V‑8 sedan cost $3,199; and a Cadillac DeVille V‑8 was $5,936; and

Whereas, the Big Three automakers of Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler were making way for the Japanese invasion of Toyota, Nissan, and Honda during the 1970s. Many car buyers in Spartanburg, who still had lingering feelings of the Japanese after World War II, were reluctant to switch from domestic cars. Over time, as foreign cars have gained popularity, Vic Bailey Automotive has expanded by adding Honda, Mazda, and Volkswagen franchises; and

Whereas, today Vic Bailey Automotive Group has four locations with two‑hundred twenty‑five employees, and it is Ford’s nineteenth largest government fleet dealer in the country, supplying fifteen hundred government vehicles a year. Vic Bailey Lincoln remains the oldest Lincoln dealer in South Carolina; and

Whereas, Vic Bailey, Jr., had a strong belief in giving back to the community, he was a big supporter of the United Way. Today, Vic Bailey Automotive supports organizations like Mobile Meals of Spartanburg, Healthy Smiles, the Charles Lea Center Foundation, the Spartanburg Humane Society, the Spartanburg Area Conservancy, Partners for Active Living, and the Spartanburg Regional Foundation; and

Whereas, in 2012, Vic Bailey III, president of Vic Bailey Automotive and son of founder Vic Bailey, Jr., was nominated for a “TIME Dealer of the Year” award along with 49 other dealers across the country, one of the industry’s top honors; and

Whereas, appreciative of Vic Bailey Automotive Group’s high standards and its many years of service to Spartanburg County, the House takes great pleasure in celebrating the dealership’s fiftieth anniversary. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, commend Vic Bailey Automotive Group of Spartanburg for a half‑century of service to the community and to extend warmest congratulations on the occasion of the dealership’s fiftieth anniversary.

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