**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND DARLA MOORE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS UPON THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE INITIAL STATE FUNDING THAT LAUNCHED THE SCHOOL OF COMMERCE IN 1919 AND TO CELEBRATE THE IMPACT THIS INSTITUTION HAS HAD THROUGH THE YEARS IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND BEYOND.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to note that in 2019 the Darla Moore School of Business and the University of South Carolina will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the University of South Carolina School of Commerce; and

Whereas, University of South Carolina was chartered in 1801 as South Carolina College and was the first South Carolina state university to be supported continually by annual state appropriations; and

Whereas, following World War I, there was strong interest in expanding commerce in the State of South Carolina. On March 1, 1919, University of South Carolina requested and secured $3,000 in funding from the South Carolina General Assembly for the purpose of launching a school of commerce. The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees approved the establishment of its new school of commerce on June 10, 1919, and the university hired the school’s first dean, George Olson, on November 1, 1919. With a faculty of 12, the school held its first classes on September 15, 1920, and graduated its first nine students in May 1923; and

Whereas, the University of South Carolina School of Commerce became the University of South Carolina School of Business Administration in 1946 and initiated its first graduate program, the master of science in business administration; and

Whereas, the University of South Carolina School of Business Administration became the University of South Carolina College of Business Administration in 1965; and

Whereas, 16 South Carolina business leaders formed the University of South Carolina Business Partnership Foundation in 1969 to support the business school and form a strong partnership with the state’s business community; and

Whereas, the MBA–ETV program (now Professional MBA) began in 1970, and the Master of International Business Studies program (now International MBA), in 1974; and

Whereas, in 1998, South Carolina businesswoman Darla Moore made the first of three significant gifts to the university, and University of South Carolina’s College of Business Administration was renamed the Darla Moore School of Business. The school’s current site at Assembly and Greene streets in Columbia opened in September 2014; and

Whereas, in 2017, the school was honored as having the third largest insurance program in the United States and as being one of 20 global centers of insurance excellence. In 2018, it was recognized as having the top undergraduate international business program (20th consecutive year); as having one of the top three graduate international business programs (nearly 30 years); as owning a top 25 part–time MBA program, top 15 undergraduate supply–chain program, and top 25 graduate supply–chain program; and as having five of seven academic departments ranked in the top 25 worldwide for faculty research productivity in their respective fields; and

Whereas, the business school today has nearly 5,400 undergraduate students, more than 800 graduate and doctoral students, 174 full–time faculty members, and 106 full–time staff members. The 100th class of business students will begin their studies at the Darla Moore School of Business on August 22, 2019. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate the University of South Carolina and Darla Moore School of Business upon the centennial anniversary of the initial state funding that launched the School of Commerce in 1919 and celebrate the impact this institution has had through the years in South Carolina and beyond.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dean Peter Brews of the Darla Moore School of Business.

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