**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS BY DECLARING JUNE 21‑27, 2020, “AMATEUR RADIO WEEK” IN SOUTH CAROLINA IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE THEY HAVE PLAYED IN ASSISTING THE CITIZENS OF THE PALMETTO STATE DURING EMERGENCIES.

Whereas, amateur radio operators are celebrating over a century of the miracle of the human voice broadcast over the airwaves; and

Whereas, amateur radio has continued to provide a bridge between peoples, societies, and countries by creating friendships and sharing ideas; and

Whereas, the operators of amateur radio have provided countless hours of community services both in emergencies and to local organizations through the decades. These services are provided wholly uncompensated; and

Whereas, furthermore, amateur radio operators provide services to emergency response organizations such as the Red Cross and local and governmental agencies; and

Whereas, these same individuals have demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing free radio communications for local parades, bike‑a‑thons, walk‑a‑thons, fairs, and other charitable public events. Additionally, “hams” serve as weather spotters in the Skyward program of the National Weather Service; and

Whereas, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the leading organization for amateur radio in the United States, will hold a field day exercise June 27‑28, 2020. This is a twenty‑four hour emergency preparedness exercise and demonstration of the radio amateur’s skills and readiness to provide self‑supporting communications without further infrastructure; and

Whereas, in honor of this event and in support of the Palmetto State’s amateur radio operators, the week of June 21 through 27, 2020, will be declared “Amateur Radio Week” in the State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor amateur radio operators by declaring June 21‑27, 2020, “Amateur Radio Week” in South Carolina in recognition of the important role they have played in assisting the citizens of the Palmetto State during emergencies.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club.

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