**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE JIM HUDSON AUTOMOTIVE GROUP OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR NEARLY HALF A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO EXTEND WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE GROUP’S FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the Jim Hudson Automotive group has established a forty year tradition of salesmanship and service in the State of South Carolina and is set to continue its proud legacy; and

Whereas, in 1961, Jim Hudson moved to Columbia to pursue a career as both a part‑time automobile salesman and a licensed optician. Quickly realizing his love of the automobile sales business, he instead devoted himself singularly to that work, rising through the ranks until in 1980, he was positioned to undertake his own coveted Oldsmobile dealership; and

Whereas, today the single franchise has evolved into the Jim Hudson Automotive Group, which includes seven locations in South Carolina and Georgia and features some of the premier names in the automotive industry; and

Whereas, the cornerstone of the Jim Hudson Automotive Group’s success has been a steadfast dedication to customer satisfaction. This attention to customer satisfaction has led to years of high rankings and other accolades, such as the “President’s Award” from Toyota, and Cadillac Buick GMC’s highest award for excellence, among other featured displays in *Time Magazine*; and

Whereas, in addition to the group’s strong history of excellent sales and business service, Jim Hudson has always felt that with his success also came an obligation to serve the communities in which he and the members of his team live and work. The automotive group has donated over eight million meals to those in need through Harvest Hope food bank, and dealership employees give their own time to serve organizations they feel connected with, such as Veterans Affairs, Special Olympics, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and American Red Cross, among others; and

Whereas, in addition to service and time given by the automotive group, Jim Hudson himself devotes much of his time to outside causes. In 2013, Governor Nikki Haley presented him with the “Order of the Palmetto Award” in recognition of his extraordinary work and dedication to the citizens of the State. He personally serves on the boards of the South Carolina Highway Patrol, the Cultural Council, and the Rotary Club. He also serves on the board of directors for the Oliver Gospel Mission, where he has donated land and financial support. His philanthropy has also extended to charities including the South Carolina Highway Patrol, the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, The Gold Star Association, the South Carolina D.A.R.E. program, and most recently he has created the Jim Hudson Leadership Academy allowing retiring military personnel to be trained in the private business sector; and

Whereas, appreciative of Jim Hudson Automotive Group’s high standards and its many years of service to the Palmetto State, the House takes great pleasure in celebrating the dealership’s fortieth 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 the Jim Hudson Automotive Group of South Carolina for nearly half a century of service to the community and extend warmest congratulations on the occasion of the group’s fortieth anniversary.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Jim Hudson on behalf of the Jim Hudson Automotive Group.

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