**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CRAYTONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF ANDERSON COUNTY FOR THE VALUABLE PUBLIC SERVICE IT RENDERS TO ITS COMMUNITY EVERY DAY AND TO CONGRATULATE THE DEPARTMENT AT THE CELEBRATION OF ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that the Craytonville Fire Department is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary in 2019; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Chief Leonard Wilson, the fledgling fire department began operations in 1969 within a station at the fork of Highway 20 and Trail Road in Belton. Equipment and manpower consisted of three fire trucks, that is, a pumper, tanker, and grass truck; ten radios; and fifteen members. The wives of the firemen with the radios would call all the other firemen and advise them of the call; and

Whereas, in 1978, the department added four bays and transformed the old bays into a meeting room and dayroom for the firemen. A fifth bay followed in 1991 to house a new pumper, and 2001 brought the station a 2,500‑gallon tanker and additions to the fleet; and

Whereas, in 2007, the department began running extraction for the rescue squads and added a rescue truck equipped with extrication tools. Ten years later, the Craytonville firemen built a substation in the community to decrease their response time. By then, they had two of every kind of truck and were able to place a pumper, tanker, grass truck, and rescue truck at each station; and

Whereas, today, all thirty‑five members of the Craytonville Fire Department have pagers or the active 911 app on their smart phones. Some have both. All are looking forward to receiving a new pumper/tanker (one truck) in October 2019; and

Whereas, led by Chief Chris Branyon, the present staff members of the Craytonville Fire Department work every day to provide the best emergency service possible, following proudly in the footsteps of their worthy predecessors; and

Whereas, cognizant that the department’s value to the community it serves is incalculable, the Senate takes great pleasure in saluting the Craytonville Fire Department on fifty years of fine service to the citizens of Anderson County. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Craytonville Fire Department of Anderson County for the valuable public service it renders to its community every day and congratulate the department at the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Craytonville Fire Department.

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