**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY AND OTHER PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MUST MAINTAIN A COMMITMENT TO FREE SPEECH AND OPEN INQUIRY.

Whereas, Clemson University and other public colleges and universities must maintain and be committed to free and open inquiry in all matters and guarantee all members of the campus community the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn; and

Whereas, it is not a proper role of public institutions of higher education to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable, or even deeply offensive; and

Whereas, public colleges and universities must maintain a commitment to the principle that debate or deliberation may not be suppressed because the ideas put forth are thought by some or even by most members of the campus community to be offensive, unwise, immoral, or wrong‑headed; and

Whereas, public colleges and universities must protect the ability of members of the campus community to engage in such debate and deliberation in an effective and responsible manner as an essential part of the educational mission. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate, by this resolution, express the sense of the Senate that Clemson University and other public colleges and universities must maintain a commitment to free speech and open inquiry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the president of every state college and university in South Carolina.

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