**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF ST. ANDREWS‑IRMO UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO EXPRESS THE UTMOST GRATITUDE FOR ITS FIFTY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that the Optimist Club of St. Andrews‑Irmo will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary on August 6, 2021; and

Whereas, chartered on August 6, 1971, the Optimist Club of St. Andrews‑Irmo was formed to develop optimism as a philosophy of life, promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs, inspire respect for law, promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people, and aid and encourage the development of youth in the belief that the giving of one’s self in service to others will advance the well-being of man and his community and world; and

Whereas, the Optimist Club of St. Andrews‑Irmo has contributed over half a million dollars to worthy causes that positively impact the lives of innumerable young people since its inception. Most notably, the club annually performs two key fundraisers: the Optimist Christmas Tree Lot and the Optimist Golf Tournament. Organized and executed by the club’s volunteer members, their efforts directly contribute to organizations that assist local youth; and

Whereas, as part of a healthy relationship with its community, the club has supported activities such as the Katrina’s Kids Foundation, Palmetto Place, the Be All You Can Be Program at Irmo High School, the My First Books SC program, and the DARE Program at Harbison West and H.E. Corley Elementary Schools. In return, the club enjoys active support from the communities it serves and is able to develop healthy partnerships in key areas, such as with local schools; and

Whereas, currently supported by thirty‑nine members who joyfully espouse the Optimist Creed, the Optimist Club of St. Andrews-Irmo has played an important role in supporting the youth of this State for the last fifty years; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly congratulate the Optimist Club of St. Andrews‑Irmo on its fiftieth anniversary and recognizes the club for its fifty years of exemplary promotion of positive values and community service, particularly for instilling in young people the value of aiding and encouraging the proper development of those who are younger than themselves. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate the Optimist Club of St. Andrews‑Irmo upon the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary and express the utmost gratitude for its fifty years of dedicated service to the citizens of this State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Optimist Club of St. Andrews‑Irmo.

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