**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT BODY OF AIKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE UPON THE OCCASION OF THEIR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO WISH THEM MANY MORE YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, Aiken Technical College began a year‑long celebration in September 2021 to commemorate five decades since its founding to educate minds, change lives, and enrich communities in Aiken County and the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA); and

Whereas, fifty years ago, classes for Aiken Technical College began in temporary facilities in Aiken with one hundred seventy‑seven students enrolled in the first class of what was then the Aiken Technical Education Center; and

Whereas, the current campus opened in the winter of 1973, and the name was changed to Aiken Technical College in March 1978; and

Whereas, Aiken Technical College has had a lasting and positive impact on the community and from its founding five decades ago has responded to the region’s workforce needs; and

Whereas, during a half century, Aiken Technical College has enrolled nearly fifty‑two thousand individuals and awarded more than sixteen thousand degrees, diplomas, and certificates to over thirteen thousand alumni; and

Whereas, now a multiservice, two‑year, comprehensive college, Aiken Technical College offers numerous educational and workforce‑development opportunities through academic programs, noncredit courses, and corporate training solutions; and

Whereas, the dedication of the college’s administration, faculty, and staff and of local officials has enabled Aiken Technical College to be on the forefront of promoting technical education and increasing access to higher education over the past fifty years; and

Whereas, Aiken Technical College now serves some two thousand credit students per semester, with fifty‑five full‑time and one hundred twenty‑one part‑time faculty members and seventy‑eight full‑time staff and twenty‑nine part‑time staff members; and

Whereas, Aiken Technical College offers more than forty‑five associate‑degree, diploma, and certificate programs in areas of manufacturing, nuclear fundamentals, computer technology, health sciences, public service, business, engineering, and college transfer; and

Whereas, the fiftieth anniversary year of Aiken Technical College in 2022 will provide an incredible opportunity for students, alumni, employees, retirees, and community partners to share their stories and photos, capturing their own amazing starts and experiences in connection with the college; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives celebrates this momentous milestone with Aiken Technical College and wishes ongoing success for the outstanding administrators, faculty and staff members, and the student body as they continue to meet the bourgeoning needs of the Central Savannah River Area. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate the administration, faculty, staff, staff, and student body of Aiken Technical College upon the occasion of their fiftieth anniversary, and wish them many more years of successful service to the citizens of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Forest Mahan, the fifth president of Aiken Technical College.

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