**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO WELCOME THE SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER FORUM TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSE AND TO PROCLAIM APRIL 7, 2014, “SUMTER TEACHER FORUM CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the Sumter School District Teacher Forum was created to recognize educators named Teacher of the Year in their districts and on their campuses, to develop teacher leadership among this outstanding group, to give teachers a voice in educational issues, and to impact the professional development of other teachers across the district by encouraging its members to facilitate the development of leadership skills among their peers; and

Whereas, in recent years, the forum has focused on improving the professional environment through teacher leadership and administrative collaboration, engaging in‬ political action and community advocacy, establishing communities of professional learning, and recruiting and retaining quality educators; and

Whereas, the Teacher Forum also recently has organized and sponsored voter registration drives at Friday night football games, a meet‑the‑candidate forum for local and statewide candidates for elected offices, a Hurricane Sandy “Stuff a Bus” district‑wide service project, a legislative advocacy panel discussion, the Botswana Teacher Leadership Conference Service Project, the “Why I Teach” videotaping project, showing of *The American Teacher* documentary, and a Salvation Army coat drive that collected one thousand three hundred jackets; and

Whereas, the General Assembly welcomes members of the Sumter Teacher Forum to the State House as they visit key state‑level educational policymakers in Columbia both here and the State Department of Education to increase their knowledge about the governing process and legislative issues that affect their profession and to participate directly in the political process. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, welcome the Sumter School District Teacher Forum to the South Carolina State House and proclaim April 7, 2014, “Sumter Teacher Forum Celebration of Excellence Day” in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Trevor Ivey for the Sumter School District Teacher Forum.

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