**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JOANNA CRAIG, DIRECTOR OF HISTORIC CAMDEN, FOR TWENTY‑TWO YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS AT THE HELM OF THIS RESPECTED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that Joanna Craig for twenty‑two years has served with distinction as director of Historic Camden (HC); and

Whereas, she has dedicated her career to promoting not only Historic Camden but also History and Destination Heritage Tourism to grow the tourism industry of the City of Camden, Kershaw County, and the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, Joanna’s working hours for Historic Camden include business hours and freely given evenings and weekends, during which time she serves as both the director and public face of HC. Visitors know her as greeter, gift‑shop retailer, tour guide, wedding planner and rental liaison, welcome‑center representative, tourism expert, Facebook webmaster, unceasing HC and community business promoter, archaeology coordinator, marketing director, scouting booster, film‑office coordinator, archivist, festival manager, grant writer, preservationist, fundraiser, diligent correspondent, and more; and

Whereas, reticent to acknowledge her own contributions to the achievements of Historic Camden, she nonetheless is the linchpin of its success; and

Whereas, dedication and determination are two of the hallmarks of Joanna’s character, as all her admirers will attest. The ongoing efforts to secure National Park status for both Battlefield of the Battle of Camden and Historic Camden’s Revolutionary War Park have been spearheaded by Joanna and have included her own congressional testimony. She remains the driving force behind the push for achieving NPS status in the Camden community; and

Whereas, under Joanna’s leadership, HC has accumulated an impressive list of accomplishments. In partnership, and as a founding principal with, Carolina Backcountry Alliance (CBA), HC created and produced an award‑winning brochure, “Carolinas’ Revolutionary War Trail: The Road to Victory,” the only brochure, among the many offered, to be permitted in the welcome centers of both Carolinas. With CBA, HC also saw its Revolutionary War Trail selected as an American Pathways 2000 destination; and

Whereas, partnering with the Battle of Camden National Landmark Advisory Council, HC has enabled development of strategic land purchases in the amount of almost two million dollars since 2000. In addition, HC has assisted in securing 479.2 acres of battlefield core, which, along with HC’s 107 acres, will be donated to the proposed National Battlefield National Park; and

Whereas, for numerous national magazines and book publishers, HC has provided information, documentation, and images. It has also supplied many authors with historical information about Camden and Kershaw County and assisted in the production of films and documentaries by the History Channel, Discovery Channel, BBC/Granada Productions, South Carolina ETV, and many other production companies; and

Whereas, Historic Camden maintains an active educational program, including field trips for about 2,800 students annually, military staff rides, and group tours; and

Whereas, all of these activities and achievements have been expertly guided and facilitated by the committed labors of Joanna Craig, who has thus earned the thanks of the City of Camden, Kershaw County, and this great State. 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, recognize and honor Joanna Craig, director of Historic Camden, for twenty‑two years of service to the citizens of South Carolina, and extend best wishes for continued success at the helm of this respected nonprofit organization.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Joanna Craig.

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