**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM ON THE OCCASION OF ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, throughout the Palmetto State and nation, agriculture has been and continues to be a major component of our economy, and for many generations, millions of young Americans have been empowered to meet the challenging needs of agriculture through enrollment in agricultural education programs; and

Whereas, in the early twentieth century, agriculturalists, leaders of industry, and educators identified the need for a system of practical education to supplement traditional academic courses and to foster the hands‑on learning needed to improve productivity; and

Whereas, on February 17, 1917, the Smith‑Hughes National Vocational Education Act was approved by the 64th Congress of the United States with bipartisan support and was signed by President Woodrow Wilson on February 23, 1917; and

Whereas, as a result of this landmark legislation, a national system of career and technical education was established and continues today; and

Whereas, the success of agricultural education under the Smith‑Hughes Act created a need for properly prepared teachers of agriculture, and the Clemson Agricultural College Agricultural Education program was created in July of 1917; and

Whereas, the Future Palmetto Farmers, the student organization for agricultural education, was created in 1927 and later became an affiliate of the National Future Farmers of America organization, which provided members with assertive agricultural preparation through premier leadership, personal growth, and career success; and

Whereas, the Clemson University Agricultural Education program continues to prepare agriculturalists for agribusiness, research, and technical careers that are recognized nationally. 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, join in the observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the Agricultural Education program at Clemson University and commend its faculty and students for continuing to enhance and strengthen the agricultural industry of the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Clemson University.

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