**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MID‑CAROLINA MIDDLE SCHOOL OF NEWBERRY COUNTY AND TO CONGRATULATE THE ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS FOR BEING CHOSEN AS A 2017 NATIONAL SCHOOL TO WATCH.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Mid‑Carolina Middle School in Prosperity has been designated as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle‑Grades Reform and will be presented the award at the fortieth conference for the South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education in Myrtle Beach on March 4, 2017; and

Whereas, in 1999, the National Forum to Accelerate Middle‑Grades Reform launched the Schools to Watch initiative, in order to identify schools across the country on the way to meeting the Forum’s criteria for high performance through academic excellence, by challenging all students to use their minds well; through developmental responsiveness, by being sensitive to the unique developmental challenges of early adolescence; and through social equity, by being democratic and fair, providing every student with high‑quality teachers, resources, and supports; and

Whereas, these high‑performing schools establish norms, structures, and organizational arrangements to support and sustain their trajectory toward excellence with a sense of purpose that drives every facet of practice and decision‑making; and

Whereas, one of three South Carolina middle schools to receive initial designation for 2017 as a School to Watch, Mid‑Carolina Middle School has set a lofty standard with a mission of facilitating optimal learning for all students to enable them to lead fulfilling lives in a rapidly changing and increasingly complex society; and

Whereas, the school also has set a vision of creating unity within the school, district, and community, forming a culture where collaboration is expected and all ideas are valued; and

Whereas, in June 2017, Mid‑Carolina will send a team to Washington, D. C., where the team members will meet with their Congressional representative and receive their national award at the National Forum’s Schools to Watch conference; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the pride and recognition that Mid‑Carolina Middle School has brought to its community and to the Palmetto State through this prestigious honor, and the members look to hear of the continued success of the of the students and faculty in the days to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Mid‑Carolina Middle School of Newberry County and congratulate the administration, faculty, staff, students, and parents for being chosen as a 2017 National School to Watch.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Principal Deedee Westwood.

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