**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER IN BEAUFORT COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS SECOND ANNIVERSARY AND TO THANK THE CENTER FOR THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE IT PROVIDES TO THE COLLEGE’S VETERANS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn of the fine work of the Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL) Veterans Resource Center in Beaufort County, which opened its doors on November 11, 2015, and will celebrate its second anniversary in November 2017; and

Whereas, through its many services, the Veterans Resource Center provides a one‑stop resource for military‑connected students to relax, connect, and seek assistance with any issues. The center partnered with the Lowcountry Military Officers Association of America to develop a mentoring program for student veterans and chartered a Student Veterans Association (SVA) of America chapter, already the largest student organization in TCL history. Committed to community service, SVA volunteers at the Special Olympics, Pat Conroy Literary Center, and Beaufort Water Festival, and routinely hosts blood drives; and

Whereas, the Veterans Resource Center established the Veterans Promise Grant in partnership with Palmetto Warrior Connection and awarded more than twelve thousand dollars in assistance. In addition, the center partnered with Veteran Scholarships Forever, awarding in excess of five thousand dollars in scholarships, and partnered with Moss Creek Marines to grant three thousand dollars in scholarships to Marines and FMF Corpsmen. The center also raised in excess of five thousand dollars during VRC 5k By the Bay to send four students to the SVA National Conference in California; and

Whereas, further, the center annually hosts a “Day of Service” to celebrate the active military and veteran population throughout the Lowcountry and provides EMT training on base to active‑duty Marines free of charge; and

Whereas, these services have increased TCL veteran student enrollment by twenty‑three percent and active‑duty enrollment by twenty‑one percent. The school now serves more than four hundred military‑connected students; and

Whereas, TCL has not gone unappreciated for the excellence of its Veterans Resource Center. Recognized by *Bestcolleges.com* on the list of “45 Top Military‑Friendly Colleges,” the school was ranked number thirty‑eight nationally and number three in South Carolina; and

Whereas, cognizant of the invaluable service the center provides to TCL military‑connected students, the House takes great pleasure in saluting the Technical College of the Lowcountry Veterans Resource Center on its second anniversary and extends best wishes for continued success. 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 Technical College of the Lowcountry Veterans Resource Center in Beaufort County on the occasion of its second anniversary and thank the center for the outstanding service it provides to the college’s veterans.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Technical College of the Lowcountry Veterans Resource Center.

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