**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL ON THE OCCASION OF THE ORGANIZATION’S ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND THE MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY LIONS CLUBS IN THE PALMETTO STATE FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SELFLESS COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Lions Clubs International is celebrating its centennial anniversary in April 2017; and

Whereas, established in April 1917 in Chicago, Lions Clubs International is proud to be the largest service organization in the world. Presently, there are 1.4 million members around the world in more than two hundred ten countries and geographical areas; and

Whereas, at the 1925 international convention, Helen Keller, as a guest speaker, made an impassioned speech asking the Lions to be “Knights of the Blind.” Since that time, sight conservation and vision research have become the most identifiable services given by Lions; and

Whereas, South Carolina enjoys the benefit of more than one hundred fifty Lions Clubs, all serving their communities with dedication. Greenwood County, for example, has four active Lions Clubs: Greenwood, Mathews, Ninety Six, and Ware Shoals. These four clubs have partnered to offer free vision screenings to over twenty thousand students in Districts 50, 51, and 52. Additionally, Lions Clubs provide referral professional visits and eyeglasses if needed. Many other local benevolent causes also benefit from the Lions Clubs’ support; and

Whereas, cognizant of the Lions’ fine record of one hundred years of service, the Senate takes great pleasure in congratulating Lions Clubs International on its centennial anniversary and extends grateful thanks for the organization’s contributions to the betterment of South Carolina’s communities. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor Lions Clubs International on the occasion of the organization’s one hundredth anniversary and commend the more than one hundred fifty Lions Clubs in the Palmetto State for their many years of selfless community service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the South Carolina Lions.

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