**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND FREE JAMES ISLAND FOR ITS DEDICATED WORK TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND.

Whereas, Free James Island is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to a fourth incorporation of the Town of James Island; and

Whereas, the size of the proposed town is approximately two thirds the population of the current town, that is, about twelve thousand people, or about the size of the City of Beaufort; and

Whereas, legislation has already been filed by Representative Peter McCoy to change annexation law so that after the town has been reincorporated, annexation elections can be held in neighborhoods that are not included now, with the goal of rapidly including everyone if voters so choose; and

Whereas, the following steps are still necessary for the incorporation to take place: When the signatures are gathered, Free James Island must submit paperwork to the Secretary of State; and

Whereas, in addition, the proposed town must be approved by a joint legislative committee. Finally, a referendum for voters who will live in the town must be held. If a majority of those voting favor reincorporation, Free James Island can go forward. The final step is to elect a new mayor and council. 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 commend Free James Island for its dedicated work to incorporate the Town of James Island.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Free James Island.

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