**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR ANNE CRAIG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ARTS CENTER OF GREENWOOD, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO THANK HER FOR TWENTY-THREE YEARS OF OUTSTANDING AND DEDICATED SERVICE, AND TO WISH HER MUCH SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, for over two decades, Anne Craig has been a catalyst, spark, ignitor, and motivator as she has carried out her duties as the executive director of the Arts Center of Greenwood with integrity and genuine passion for the arts; and

Whereas, a resident of Greenwood, Anne began the process of organizing an Arts Council for the community upon her return to her hometown in 1995. After the Self Family Foundation awarded a grant to hire a full-time director, Anne was hired into the position. A driving force for the Greenwood arts community, the Arts Center was transformed under her leadership, going from their original location on Waller Avenue to the beautifully renovated federal building which now serves as its home; and

Whereas, having served as a pillar of the Greenwood arts community, and a facilitator who has worked for the sustainability and viability of all of its cultural organizations, Anne was nominated in the individual category for the prestigious Elizabeth O’Neill Verner Governor’s Awards for the Arts. This award is the highest honor the State gives to those in the arts and recognizes outstanding achievement and contributions to the arts in South Carolina; and

Whereas, under Anne’s leadership, the arts council in Greenwood has grown from a small start up to a major community leader in the arts. Today, the Arts Center of Greenwood serves as an anchor organization for the Emerald Triangle, which includes the Greenwood County Museum and the Greenwood Community Theatre, and has served as a catalyst for the revitalization of Uptown Greenwood; and

Whereas, in addition to her time with the Arts Center of Greenwood, Anne has also found time to assist other organizations by serving and participating on boards and committees such as the Wesley Commons Board of Visitors, Lander University Board of Visitors, Greenwood Rotary Club, Ivy Garden Club, McKissick Study Club, and Greenwood Women Care; and

Whereas, having shown tireless dedication, love, and support for making the arts available to the community, as well as for her successes and achievements in revitalizing Uptown Greenwood, Anne was awarded the Women’s Leadership Council’s Woman of Excellence Award in 2014; and

Whereas, the Senate recognizes that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication and passion of individuals like Anne Craig who use their talents and resources to serve and inspire others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Anne Craig, executive director of the Arts Center of Greenwood, on the occasion of her retirement, thank her for twenty-three years of outstanding and dedicated service, and wish her much success and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Anne Craig.

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