**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE SUMTER ROTARY CLUB, TO COMMEND THAT ORGANIZATION FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO OUR STATE, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Whereas, The Sumter Rotary Club, chartered on April 11, 1922 in Sumter, is the city’s oldest service organization and has sponsored twenty‑one other Rotary Clubs in South Carolina; and

Whereas, for one hundred years, Rotary has provided an avenue for fellowship and service for Sumter community leaders; and

Whereas, over the past one hundred years more than one thousand Sumter citizens have been members of one of the three Rotary Clubs in Sumter: the Sumter Rotary Club, the Sumter‑Palmetto Club, and the Sumter Sunrise Club; and

Whereas, Rotary International is a world‑wide service organization founded in Chicago in 1905, currently consisting of over one million professional and business leader members, in over thirty-five thousand clubs around the world; and

Whereas, the Rotary motto “Service Above Self” inspires members to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and promote good will and peace in the world; and

Whereas, Sumter Rotary clubs have made significant contributions toward improving our community, including expanding the YMCA programs, building the first cabin at the YMCA’s Camp Mac Boykin in Manchester State Forest, supporting the Crippled Children’s Fund, restoring the Opera House in downtown Sumter, and building the Rotary Centennial Plaza and fountain in downtown Sumter in 2005; and

Whereas, Sumter Rotary clubs have helped educate students at home and abroad, including through the Foreign Exchange Student Project, Student Visitation Program, and Interact Clubs. Starting in 1955, the Sumter Rotary Club Education Fund has provided tens of thousands of dollars in loans and scholarships that enable local students to attend college. For decades, the club has provided a dictionary to every third grade student in Sumter County public and private schools, and a thesaurus to every sixth grader; and

Whereas, in 1995, the Sumter Rotary Club established the Coins For Alzheimer’s Trust (CART) Fund, which supports research for discovering preventative treatments and finding a cure for Alzheimer’s disease. CART started with the simple idea that Rotarians would contribute pocket change when attending weekly meetings. CART was so successful that it has since been adopted by clubs throughout the Southeast. CART has awarded sixty-one grants totaling over ten million dollars. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate the Sumter Rotary Club, commend members of that club for one hundred years of service to the community and extend best wishes for continued success in the years to come.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Sumter Rotary Club.

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