**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**S. 503**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Senate Resolution

Sponsors: Senators Ott, Adams, Alexander, Allen, Bennett, Blackmon, Campsen, Cash, Chaplin, Climer, Corbin, Cromer, Davis, Devine, Elliott, Fernandez, Gambrell, Garrett, Goldfinch, Graham, Grooms, Hembree, Hutto, Jackson, Johnson, Kennedy, Kimbrell, Leber, Martin, Massey, Matthews, Nutt, Peeler, Rankin, Reichenbach, Rice, Sabb, Stubbs, Sutton, Tedder, Turner, Verdin, Walker, Williams, Young and Zell

Document Path: LC-0197HDB-JN25.docx

Introduced in the Senate on March 26, 2025

Adopted by the Senate on March 26, 2025

Summary: Riverbanks Botanical Garden, 30th anniversary

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 3/26/2025 Senate Introduced and adopted (Senate Journal‑page 7)

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=503&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[03/26/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/503_20250326.docx)

A senate RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE RIVERBANKS BOTANICAL GARDEN ON THE OCCASION OF ITS THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND ITS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the Riverbanks Botanical Garden, occupying seventy acres on the west campus of Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in Lexington County, has been a treasured landmark and source of inspiration since its opening on June 10, 1995; and

Whereas, the garden showcases over 5,700 species of native and exotic plants, serving as both a beautiful attraction and trusted resource for conservationists across the nation; and

Whereas, Riverbanks Botanical Garden has been recognized nationally, earning accolades such as being named one of “10 Gardens That Inspire” by Horticulture magazine and one of “20 Great Public Gardens Across America” by HGTV; and

Whereas, the garden expanded in 2016 with the opening of Waterfall Junction, a three‑acre children’s garden featuring a 25‑foot cascading waterfall, providing an interactive space for families to connect with nature; and

Whereas, Riverbanks Botanical Garden plays a critical role in conservation, partnering with universities, agencies, and organizations to protect threatened and endangered plant species, including the federally endangered Schweinitz’s sunflower and the rare Rocky Shoals spider lily; and

Whereas, recognizing the vital role of pollinators in sustaining agriculture and natural ecosystems, Riverbanks Botanical Garden established the Planting with a Purpose initiative to encourage the community to create pollinator friendly habitats, the presence of which contributes to environmental health and economic sustainability; and

Whereas, for thirty years, Riverbanks Botanical Garden has served as a beacon of education, conservation, and natural beauty that enriches the lives of residents and visitors alike. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Riverbanks Botanical Garden on the occasion of its thirtieth anniversary and commend its outstanding contributions to conservation, education, and community engagement in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Riverbanks Botanical Garden.

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