**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE LEGACY OF OUTSTANDING CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST AND HUMANITARIAN MODJESKA MONTEITH SIMKINS AND TO COMMEND THE HISTORIC COLUMBIA FOUNDATION ON THE OPENING OF ITS NEW INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT AT COLUMBIA’S HISTORIC MODJESKA MONTEITH SIMKINS HOUSE.

Whereas, on Sunday, March 16, 2014, the Historic Columbia Foundation will unveil a new interpretive exhibit at the historic Modjeska Monteith Simkins House in Columbia. Supported by a major grant from The Humanities CouncilSC, *Making a Way Out of No Way: The Legacy of Modjeska Monteith Simkins* will launch as a permanent exhibit. During the March 16 opening, visitors may view the exhibit and speak with scholars, activists, and family members who knew and worked with Mrs. Simkins; and

Whereas, through the new exhibit, Historic Columbia tells the story of South Carolina’s most influential human rights advocate of the twentieth century, Modjeska Monteith Simkins. A founding member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in the State, she also played an important role in the court case *Briggs v. Elliott*. Her home in the Waverly District of downtown Columbia served as office, meeting space for strategy sessions, and temporary lodging for civil rights associates and supporters. While the Simkins House was preserved following her death in 1992, cohesive interpretive materials have not previously been available at the site; and

Whereas, *Making a Way Out of No Way: The Legacy of Modjeska Monteith Simkins* will combine historic artifacts, images, text, and video while offering unprecedented coverage of the activist and the lasting impact her life and work have had on the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, at the March 16 showing of the Simkins House, located at 2025 Marion Street in Columbia, free tours will be available from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Free tours also will be available on Thursday, March 20, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 25, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.; Thursday, April 3, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; and Tuesday, April 8, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. In addition, private tours can be arranged for groups of ten or more; and

Whereas, the Senate, grateful for the efforts of the Historic Columbia Foundation in presenting this fascinating look into the life and work of Modjeska Monteith Simkins, encourages all citizens of South Carolina to visit and enjoy the new exhibit, and the members wish Historic Columbia all the best as it continues its fine work to preserve Columbia’s heritage. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor the legacy of outstanding civil rights activist and humanitarian Modjeska Monteith Simkins and commend the Historic Columbia Foundation on the opening of its new interpretive exhibit at Columbia’s historic Modjeska Monteith Simkins House.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Historic Columbia Foundation.

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