**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE REVEREND DR. VANDROTH BACKUS FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY, STATE, AND COUNTRY, AND TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF OAKLAND AVENUE FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH NORFOLK STREET TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH WILSON ROAD IN THE CITY OF FLORENCE “REVEREND DR. VANDROTH BACKUS WAY-A MONTFORD POINT MARINE” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS PORTION OF ROADWAY THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “REVEREND DR. VANDROTH BACKUS WAY-A MONTFORD POINT MARINE”.

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Vandroth Backus is the son of the late Henry and Mary Ella Bacote Backus; and

Whereas, he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Divinity from Morris College, and is a graduate of the Renuard School of Mortuary Science; and

Whereas, Reverend Backus served his country with dignity and honor during World War II and the Korean Conflict; and

Whereas, he is a renowned Civil Rights leader who became the first black policemen in the City of Florence since reconstruction, an educator in the Darlington Public School System for fourteen years, and worked for Morris College, his alma mater for many years. He is the owner of Backus Funeral Home in Florence; and

Whereas, as a man called by God to preach his word, Reverend Backus faithfully served as Pastor of Meadow Prong Baptist Church for more than thirteen years, Green Hill Baptist Church for eighteen years, and is the founder and Pastor of Monumental Missionary Baptist Church; and

Whereas, he is married to Florence Smith Backus and they are the proud parents of three children; and

Whereas, it would be fitting and proper to recognize the great contributions that this man of God has made to his community, this State, and our nation by naming a portion of roadway in his honor. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly congratulate Reverend Dr. Vandroth Bacus for his many years of service to his community, state, and country, and to request that the Department of Transportation name the portion of Oakland Avenue from its intersection with Norfolk Street to its intersection with Wilson Road in the City of Florence “Reverend Dr. Vandroth Backus Way-A Montford Point Marine” and erect appropriate markers or signs along this portion of roadway that contain the words “Reverend Dr. Vandroth Backus Way-A Montford Point Marine”.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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