**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE PASSING OF MR. FRED SHEHEEN OF CAMDEN, TO HONOR HIS LIFE AND WORK, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Mr. Fred Sheheen of Camden on June 6, 2016 at the age of seventy-nine; and

Whereas, at the time of his death, Mr. Sheheen was serving the University of South Carolina in the role of senior consultant. He taught an Honors College class on South Carolina State Government. In addition, he developed policy papers on public issues. He also served as director of the Institute for Non-Profit Leadership and the Rural Leadership Institute at Francis Marion University; and

Whereas, the son of the late Austin Moses Sheheen, Sr. and Lucile Roukos Sheheen, Mr. Sheheen was born in Camden. He was a graduate of Camden High School and Duke University. He also attended the Institute for Education Management at Harvard University and holds honorary degrees from Lander University, Claflin University and the Technical College of the Lowcountry; and

Whereas, upon his graduation from Duke University, Mr. Sheheen worked as a journalist for *The Charlotte Observer*, covering civil rights issues. He also served as an aide to South Carolina Governor Donald Russell. Mr. Sheheen served on the Executive Board of UNITED 2000, an organization dedicated to removing the Confederate flag from the State House; and

Whereas, Mr. Sheheen served as commissioner and executive director of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education for ten years, from 1987 to 1997. During his tenure, he fought to integrate the state’s public institutions of higher learning and provide equal opportunities to blacks attending schools in South Carolina; and

Whereas, Mr. Sheheen was a supporter of the arts, and an active member in the Kershaw County community; and

Whereas, Mr. Sheheen is survived by his wife of almost fifty years, Rose Serio Sheheen; son, Vincent Sheheen (Amy); daughters Maria Spring (Steven), and Margaret Bishop (Matthew); brothers, Austin M. Sheheen, Jr. and Robert J. Sheheen; grandchildren, Austin, Joseph, and Anthony Sheheen; William and Robert Spring; David, Olivia, and Thomas Bishop. Mr. Sheheen was predeceased by his daughter, Olivia Marie Sheheen and his brother, Michael Sheheen. He will be remembered by family and friends for his infectious smile and optimistic attitude, his servant spirit, and passionate work to make South Carolina a better place for all. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, express the profound sorrow of the members of the South Carolina Senate upon the passing of Mr. Fred Sheheen of Camden, honor his life and work, and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the family of Mr. Fred Sheheen.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑