**South Carolina General Assembly**

122nd Session, 2017-2018

**S. 1296**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Senate Resolution

Sponsors: Senator M.B. Matthews

Document Path: l:\s-res\mbm\027bert.kmm.mbm.docx

Introduced in the Senate on October 3, 2018

Adopted by the Senate on October 3, 2018

Summary: Reverend Bertha L. Givens

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

10/3/2018 Senate Introduced and adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 3](file:///h:\sj\20181003.docx))

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=1296&session=122&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[10/3/2018](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\1296_20181003.docx)

**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE PASSING OF REVEREND BERTHA L. GIVENS AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Reverend Bertha L. Givens on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at the venerable age of ninety-seven; and

Whereas, a life‑long resident of South Carolina, Reverend Bertha L. Givens was born on March 30, 1921; and

Whereas, a devoted and loving wife and mother, Reverend Givens was married to her late husband, Sam Givens, for forty-eight years. Together, they reared their children to be God‑fearing and God‑loving, upstanding citizens. These children grew up to become successful nurses, accountants, pastors, law enforcement officers, educators, home healthcare providers, successful business owners, and a banker. Three sons served with distinction in the United States Army, and two of these sons, as decorated Vietnam veterans, were awarded three Purple Hearts. She also served as a mother to thirty-five foster children, as well as numerous children within the community and across her extended family. She had an abundance of love and touched many lives; and

Whereas, a pillar in her community, Reverend Givens served as a source of counsel and comfort for numerous people in the local Green Pond community, as well as across Colleton County and other parts of the country. For decades, she touched the lives of many through her selfless caring and giving; and

Whereas, Reverend Givens’ life of impeccable integrity in ministry is a standard for all. For many years, she served as a class leader and an associate pastor for Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church in Green Pond, and she also served in prison outreach ministry; and

Whereas, motivated by love and her strong Christian conviction, Reverend Givens also founded a major community outreach program named Harvest Day. For forty‑four years, she hosted the annual Harvest Day program at her church, both teaching God’s word to others and giving away a massive amount of home-grown produce and homemade preserves. She also participated in conducting Bible studies at nursing homes, where she donated hand‑sewn quilts. Over the years in her life of ministry, Reverend Bertha Givens blessed thousands of people and gave gifts valuing hundreds of thousands of dollars; and

Whereas, the life and legacy of Reverend Bertha Givens provide an example and an inspiration to all. She will be missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Reverend Bertha L. Givens and extend their deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Reverend Bertha L. Givens.

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