**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE MILDRED R. JOHNSON FOR HER DEDICATED SERVICE AND OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize Mildred R. Johnson for her many years of service as a leader in her community and the State; and

Whereas, Mildred R. Johnson was born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina and is the daughter of the late John Robinson and Pearl Clark Robinson. She graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, from Benedict College with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, and from South Carolina State University with a Master’s in Education; and

Whereas, a strong believer in empowerment through education, Mrs. Johnson held teaching positions at schools in Lower Richland County and Richland County School District One for thirty-five years. She also served as the assistant to two principals at Watkins Elementary School; and

Whereas, an active leader in her community, Mrs. Johnson has served as chairperson for the Ridgewood/Barony Neighborhood Association Beautification Committee and as association treasurer and president. She has also served as a member in a number of organizations, including the Benedict-Allen Community Development Corporation Board, the South Carolina Retired Education Association, the National Education Association, the American Business Women’s Association, the National Council of Negro Women, the NAACP, and the Columbia chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.; and

Whereas, Mrs. Johnson has received numerous awards and recognition for her continued service to Richland County and the Eau Claire community, including being named Outstanding Teacher by Richland County School District One in 1981, 1982, and 1983 consecutively; and

Whereas, a devoted Christian, Mrs. Johnson is a member of Antioch Baptist Church in Columbia, where she serves as a board member of the church’s senior center. She also served as president of the church’s musical choir for seven years, played a vital part in helping to establish an after-school tutorial program, and served as director of the after-school program. Her favorite scripture is Psalm 8:1, and she gives daily praises to God for her parents, siblings, children, grandchildren, great-grandsons, and extended family and friends; and

Whereas, Mrs. Johnson has three children, Barry T. Johnson, Sr., La Vita D. Johnson, and the late Rueben Van Johnson, III; five grandchildren; and two great grandsons; and

Whereas, Mrs. Johnson maintains a heartfelt desire “to demonstrate God’s love through her daily living and to show herself friendly.” Her motto is, “if I can help somebody along the way as I travel through life’s journey, then my living shall not be in vain”; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the dedication and commitment that Mildred R. Johnson has shown in serving the State and the people of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor and recognize Mildred R. Johnson for her dedicated service and outstanding contributions to the State of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mildred R. Johnson.

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