**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE TRADITION OF HARBISON INSTITUTE AND HARBISON JUNIOR COLLEGE IN PROVIDING OPEN‑DOOR ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION FOR DIVERSE STUDENTS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS AND SOCIO‑ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES AND TO DECLARE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2017, AS “HARBISON HISTORY DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, Harbison Institute, originally founded in 1882, was established to serve African‑American students, and did so, both as Harbison Institute and later as Harbison Junior College; and

Whereas, Harbison Institute offered educational opportunities for African‑American students during a period when their higher education options were limited; and

Whereas, from 1911 to 1958, Harbison Institute provided higher education for African‑American students at its location in Harbison, South Carolina; and

Whereas, graduates of Harbison Institute went on to become distinguished teachers, lawyers, and civic leaders who greatly advanced the vitality and cultural heritage of the State; and

Whereas, in 1978, the property of Harbison Institute was donated to Midlands Technical College with the understanding that is would be perpetually used for higher education; and

Whereas, the site is now the home of the Midlands Technical College Harbison campus, where the tradition of ensuring access to higher education for all students continues; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the rich and meaningful legacy of Harbison Institute and Harbison Junior College and their significant impact on culture and lives in the Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the tradition of Harbison Institute and Harbison Junior College in providing open‑door access to higher education for diverse students from all backgrounds and socio‑economic circumstances and declare Wednesday, February 22, 2017, as “Harbison History Day” in South Carolina.

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