**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JEAN L. BLACKMAN UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM THE POSITION OF SCHOOL NURSE AFTER TWENTY‑EIGHT DEDICATED YEARS AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Jean Blackman will begin a well‑deserved retirement in June 2017; and

Whereas, born in Florence on February 27, 1955, Jean is the daughter of Mildred Bateman Lewis. She graduated from West Florence High School in 1973 and went on to attend Florence Darlington Technical College School of Nursing, from which she graduated in 1975. She was licensed as a Registered Nurse by the South Carolina State Board in June of that same year; and

Whereas, on November 13, 1975, she married her beloved husband, Roger Blackman. They have three lovely children: Amy Baker, Roger Blackman, and Austin Blackman; and

Whereas, upon graduating from nursing school, Jean Blackman began working for McLeod Hospital in pediatrics. When her daughter was born, she transitioned from a full‑time employee to picking up occasional weekend work in order to become a full‑time parent. For twelve years, she dedicated her time to her children, during which time she coached softball and was active as a Scouts leader. She started a Girl Scout troop and a Cub Scout pack in Lamar. She also was an assistant leader of a Boy Scout troop at the family’s church. She presently serves as the Eagle Scout coach; and

Whereas, she has been a lifelong member of Pisgah United Methodist Church in Florence and has taught children’s Sunday school there for thirty‑five years; and

Whereas, in 1989, Jean Blackman became a school nurse for Darlington County School District, and ten years later, she added lead nurse to her duties. She has received a certificate of leadership from the Darla Moore School of Business. She is a certified basic life support (BLS) CPR/first aid instructor and a faculty member of Pee Dee Regional EMS, Inc., in Florence; and

Whereas, she was honored with the Palmetto Gold Award for Nursing in 2004, and in 2014, was chosen as the South Carolina Registered Nurse of the Year; and

Whereas, in 2015, Jean Blackman received the Award of Excellence by the National Association of School Nurses. In 2016, she was distinguished as a Mary Dean Brewer Women of Distinction by Girl Scouts of Eastern South Carolina; and

Whereas, she plans to spend many happy hours of retirement as nanny to her brand new grandchild Ryan Luke Blackman, who came into this world on March 15, 2017; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the years of dedication that Jean Blackman has devoted to the children of South Carolina and wish her many years of enjoyment in her well‑earned retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Jean L. Blackman upon the occasion of her retirement from the position of school nurse after twenty‑eight dedicated years and wish her continued success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Jean L. Blackman.

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