**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR BILLIE JEAN SHAW, A MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST AND ANCHOR, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RELOCATION TO CHARLOTTE AFTER EXEMPLARY SERVICE FOR WIS-TV IN COLUMBIA SINCE 2015, AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate has learned that Billie Jean Shaw will leave Columbia on Thursday, April 6, 2017, to return to Charlotte, North Carolina, where she will continue her journalistic career, following two years as an outstanding reporter with WIS‑TV in the Midlands; and

Whereas, she earned a bachelor’s degree in mass communication with a minor in marketing from Winthrop University and worked in Washington, D. C., covering political news on Capitol Hill and issues in the community during her collegiate career; and

Whereas, immediately after graduation, Ms. Shaw, originally from Manning, was hired as an assignment‑desk editor and digital journalist by FOX 46 in Charlotte, where she was first to report that a judge would overturn the fifty‑four‑year‑old convictions of those convicted in the Friendship Nine’s historic Civil Rights’ case; and

Whereas, in 2015, she joined the WIS‑TV team in Columbia, serving in many roles, including morning reporter, general‑assignment reporter, and midday anchor; and

Whereas, Ms. Shaw was one of the first reporters on the scene of the tragic shooting at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston in 2015, and just hours after the shocking crime, she was the first to report the details surrounding the shooting before any other local or national reporters. In an exclusive interview months later, she interviewed the adult survivors of the shooting as they gave chilling descriptions of that horrific night; and

Whereas, she was also the first reporter to speak with the family and attorney of Keith Scott, who was fatally wounded by a Charlotte‑Mecklenberg police officer in 2016, an incident that sparked several nights of terrifying riots; and

Whereas, Ms. Shaw helped to create the WIS *Millennial Voice* series that debuted around the time of the 2016 presidential election and that encourages the next generation to become engaged and educated in current events worldwide; and

Whereas, known for her ability to connect easily with viewers, she obtained several exclusives while at WIS and uses creative storytelling and the latest technology to produce compelling stories that keep her viewers informed, her number‑one priority; and

Whereas, a proud member of the National Association of Black Journalists and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Ms. Shaw enjoys volunteering in the community and spending time with her family when she is not reporting; and

Whereas, willing to travel to any location for a story, she plans to return to Charlotte where she will report for WCNC‑TV; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the unparalleled dedication that Billie Jean Shaw has devoted to journalism in the Midlands and throughout the Palmetto State and wish her many years of fulfillment as she continues her career in journalism. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Billie Jean Shaw, a multimedia journalist and anchor, upon the occasion her relocation to Charlotte after exemplary service for WIS-TV in Columbia since 2015, 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 Billie Jean Shaw.

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