**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MS. SARAH LEVERETTE OF COLUMBIA FOR HER LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENTS AS ATTORNEY, EDUCATOR, AND VOLUNTEER, TO CONGRATULATE HER ON THE OCCASION OF HER NINETIETH BIRTHDAY, AND TO WISH HER MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE COMING YEARS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives honor individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great State’s citizenry; and

Whereas, Ms. Sarah Leverette of Columbia, an exemplary attorney, educator, and volunteer for many years in her community, stands high among their number, much admired for her dedicated public service and accomplishments; and

Whereas, born in the Upstate town of Iva, Sarah Leverette, one of the first women lawyers in South Carolina, graduated magna cum laude from the University of South Carolina School of Law and was admitted to the South Carolina Bar in 1943. However, she found that having a law degree did not ensure women the opportunity of practicing law. Instead, she began a long career in legal research, starting at the South Carolina Department of Labor; and

Whereas, following her post‑graduate work at Columbia University, Ms. Leverette returned to the University of South Carolina School of Law as a librarian and instructor, becoming the first female faculty member at the law school, where she taught for a quarter century. During her pioneering tenure there, she was appointed by then‑Governor John C. West to serve on the Committee to Revise the Constitution of South Carolina and wrote the procedural outline for the current method of amending our state constitution; and

Whereas, Ms. Leverette left the university in the 1970s to serve as commissioner and chairman of the South Carolina Industrial Commission, from which she retired in the 1980s; and

Whereas, equally impressive is her commitment to volunteerism including involvement with a number of community organizations such as Common Cause of South Carolina, the Community Relations Luncheon Club, Rich Land Foundation, American Association of University Women, and Education First. Her involvement with the League of Women Voters has been one of dedication and leadership. She served as president of the organization from 1958 to 1961 and was presented with the Barbara W. Moxon Award, which recognizes those dedicated to advocacy; and

Whereas, over the years, Ms. Leverette has received many additional honors for her labors, among them the South Carolina Women Lawyers Association’s highest honor, the Jean Galloway Bissell Award; Girl Scouts of Congaree Area Women of Distinction Award; and South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs Consumer Spirit Award for Excellence in Consumer Advocacy; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives also notes that Sarah Leverette celebrated her ninetieth birthday on December 30, 2009, and the members are proud to join her family and friends in congratulating this truly gifted South Carolinian on reaching this extraordinary milestone; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives adds further congratulations upon the many expressions of commendation Ms. Leverette has received, and still is receiving, the fruits of a life filled with service to others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Ms. Sarah Leverette of Columbia for her leadership and achievements as attorney, educator, and volunteer, congratulate her on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday, and wish her much happiness in the coming years.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Ms. Sarah Leverette.

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