**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE SARAH CRAIG “SALLY” ALDRIDGE OF COLUMBIA UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HER FOR HER FORTY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR, AND TO WISH HER MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina Senate honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great State’s most important legacy, its children; and

Whereas, Sarah Craig “Sally” Aldridge, retiring after forty fruitful years as a classroom teacher, stands among their number as an outstanding public benefactor, one much admired in her role as both educator and community leader; and

Whereas, Sally received her early teacher training at Winthrop University, finishing with a degree in education, followed by further studies at the University of South Carolina, where she earned a graduate degree in guidance and counseling and completed many hours of additional graduate work in mathematics; and

Whereas, in 1969, an eager first‑year teacher, she began her work as an educator at Heyward Gibbes Middle School in Columbia. In 2000, at Fulmer Middle School in West Columbia, Sally concluded an honored public school teaching career of thirty‑one years, after which she continued teaching mathematics for nearly a decade at Columbia’s Hammond School; and

Whereas, long acknowledged as a master teacher, Sally was named District Teacher of the Year for Lexington County School District Two and State Teacher of the Year for the American Legion; and

Whereas, always seeking ways to serve, Sally led Emily Lee Mission Group of Greenlawn Baptist Church to begin the Veterans Spouse House, helped start Young Life in Columbia, and served as a Sunday School teacher for many years. She presently serves as a deacon and member of the Leadership Council at Kathwood Baptist Church and continues to work with youth in the community, especially as a tutor; and

Whereas, Sally and her husband, Marion, raised a fine family of two children, daughters Jenna and Julie, and have one grandson, Lake, who brings much joy to the family; and

Whereas, during Sally’s well‑earned retirement, the Senate trusts she will find herself more frequently out in the yard feeding her birds, in her sewing room stitching beautiful creations for family and friends, and in the kitchen indulging her love for cooking; and

Whereas, having set the bar of achievement high in her profession, Sally Aldridge will be remembered upon her retirement with affection and gratitude by colleagues, students, parents, and legislative friends for years to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Sarah Craig “Sally” Aldridge of Columbia upon the occasion of her retirement, commend her for her forty years of dedicated service as an educator, and wish her much happiness and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Sally Aldridge.

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