**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF DEACON ROBERT L. GRAVES OF ALLENDALE COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Deacon Robert L. Graves of Allendale County on February 23, 2011; and

Whereas, born April 18, 1933, Robert L. Graves was the son of Richardson and Eva Mae Housey Graves. He was educated in the public schools of Jasper County; and

Whereas, he was employed for forty‑two years at D.O.E. Savannah River Site and for thirteen years at Clariant Corporation as a security guard; and

Whereas, a man of faith, at an early age he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and was baptized at Antioch Baptist Church. As a dedicated member, he served there for many years as assistant chairman; and

Whereas, those fortunate enough to know Robert Graves valued him as a loving, kind‑hearted man, a good husband, father, and friend who touched the lives of many, both young and old, as he gave of himself in service to others, whether assisting with doctor visits or using a hammer and nails; and

Whereas, in addition, he was a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 114, Prince Hall Affiliated, in Pineland. He was also past president of the Townsmen Club, where he served the community in many ways; and

Whereas, having fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith, he leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Bernice Graves; children Wanda, Shantza, Connie, Doveta, Tomequa, Gerald, and Johnnie; ten grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends. He will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Deacon Robert L. Graves of Allendale County, and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Mrs. Bernice Graves for the family.

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