**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE COLUMBIA URBAN LEAGUE FOR RECEIVING THE WHITNEY M. YOUNG, JR., LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR ADVANCING RACIAL EQUALITY AND JAMES T. MCLAWHORN, ITS PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, FOR BEING NAMED THE CENTENNIAL PUBLIC POLICY CHAMPION BY THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly note with pride that the Columbia Urban League received the coveted Whitney M. Young, Jr., Leadership Award for Advancing Racial Equality and that the organization’s president and chief executive officer, James T. McLawhorn, Jr., received the Centennial Public Policy Champion Award in June 2010, both from the National Urban League; and

Whereas, after a century of serving the needs of many in American’s urban communities, the National Urban League celebrated its one hundredth anniversary at the National Urban League Centennial Conference in the nation’s capital in the summer of 2010; and

Whereas, the Whitney M. Young, Jr., Award, named after the decade-long president of the National Urban League who served as an advisor on race relations to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, recognizes outstanding work in the area of advancing racial equity; and

Whereas, under the dedicated leadership of James T. Mclawhorn for the past thirty-one years, the Columbia Urban League has followed the legacy Whitney Young in its efforts to empower disenfranchised communities, advocate for improved education and career opportunities, and take a stand against racial inequities in South Carolina; and

Whereas, since 1979, James McLawhorn has led the Columbia Urban League as a locally and nationally recognized pacesetter with expertise in promoting programs for youth-leadership development among disadvantaged and foster-care youths; and

Whereas, he has also provided leadership in the advocacy of equal opportunity and social justice, and he initiated the organization’s acclaimed publication, *The State of Black South Carolina: An Action Agenda for the Future*; and

Whereas, Mr. McLawhorn earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from North Carolina A&T State University and a master’s degree in regional planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and another master’s in business administration from the University of Miami at Coral Gables; and

Whereas, among his many awards, he received the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian award conferred in South Carolina; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are grateful for the pride and recognition that the Columbia Urban League and James T. McLawhorn have brought to their community and this State and for the significant contributions they have made for the betterment of our citizens. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Columbia Urban League for receiving the Whitney M. Young, Jr., Leadership Award for Advancing Racial Equality and James T. McLawhorn, its president and chief executive officer, for being named the Centennial Public Policy Champion by the National Urban League.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to President James T. McLawhorn, Jr.

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