**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATH OF COLLETON COUNTY COUNCILMAN FLOYD BUCKNER, 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 Colleton County Councilman Floyd Buckner on July 23, 2011, at the age of sixty‑nine; and

Whereas, in preparation for a long and fruitful career, Floyd Buckner earned his bachelor’s degree at Benedict College in 1964 and his master’s degree in education at South Carolina State University in 1970; and

Whereas, in 1972, he began a career in education that spanned almost four decades, his first assignment being at Jenkins Hill Middle School in Harleyville, where he served as principal. He became principal of Forest Hills Elementary School in Walterboro in 1974, the next year accepting the position of Title I Program director for the Colleton County School District, from which he retired after thirty‑nine years of service; and

Whereas, the first African American to win a runoff election in Colleton County, Mr. Buckner was elected to Colleton County Council in 1982 and served twenty‑eight years as a councilman. In 1992, he became the first African American to chair Colleton County Council; and

Whereas, in addition, he achieved several other firsts in his career of public service. In 1990, he was the first African American to serve as bank board director (First Federal Savings and Loan); in 1992, he was the first African American to serve on the Walterboro Colleton Airport Commission; and in 1996, he began publishing the first black‑owned newspaper in Colleton County. Floyd Buckner was also the first president of the Arabian Temple #139, Walterboro Shrine Club; and

Whereas, he did not go unappreciated for his extensive service. In 1995, the Floyd Buckner Title I Parent Center in Walterboro was named in his honor, as was Walterboro’s Floyd Buckner Building in 1998. The latter honor made him the first African American to have a Colleton County government building bear his name; and

Whereas, at the time of his death, he was serving as a member of the board of directors for First Federal Savings F.S.B.; and

Whereas, his son B’wana having predeceased him, Mr. Buckner leaves to cherish his memory his son Dwayne (Melissa); four grandchildren; one great‑grandchild; and a host of other family members and friends. He will be 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 death of Colleton County Councilman Floyd Buckner, and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Dwayne Buckner for the family.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑