**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND CONGRATULATE MICHELLE GILMER OF PENDLETON HIGH SCHOOL IN ANDERSON FOR BEING NAMED NATIONAL 2011 AMERICAN BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION FOR TEACHERS OF EXCELLENCE TEACHER OF THE YEAR, AND TO EXTEND SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR HER OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives were delighted to learn that Pendleton High School mathematics teacher Michelle Gilmer was named national 2011 American Board for Certification for Teachers of Excellence (ABCTE) Teacher of the Year, with an award ceremony in her honor to be held on Friday, March 2, 2012, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, the ABCTE is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to recruiting, preparing, certifying, and supporting teachers. ABCTE certification is not just a test; it is a program designed to inspire career changers to enter teaching and give them a rigorous and efficient process to achieve their goals; and

Whereas, in the annual ABCTE Teacher of the Year competition, teachers from each state, all of them ABCTE alumni, are nominated for the award by their principals and compete for online votes from the education community. From among six finalists, the national winner is selected by ABCTE senior staff through interviews that cover professional development, student achievement, and instructional design and delivery. The national winner is honored at an award ceremony hosted by the United States Department of Education; and

Whereas, in preparation for her life’s work, in 1966 Michelle Gilmer earned a bachelor’s degree in textile engineering at Auburn University in Alabama; and

Whereas, she later left a lucrative career in engineering for a new vocational path with Anderson School District 4, saying it had always been her dream to be a math teacher. Her goal: to utilize her previous work experience by bringing real‑world mathematics applications to the classroom; and

Whereas, Michelle Gilmer’s principal, Heather Gordon, says of her, “Mrs. Gilmer may be newer to the profession, but if you saw her teach, you would think she has been challenging minds for fifteen years. She has a kind, sincere, and comedic personality that enables her to make math exciting to students of all ability levels”; and

Whereas, counting the support she receives from her family as an important factor in her success, Mrs. Gilmer is proud wife and mother to husband Brian and children Caitlin, Morgan, Caroline, and Marshall Gilmer; and

Whereas, grateful for her dedication and consistent excellence in the classroom, the House of Representatives takes great pleasure in recognizing Michelle Gilmer on being named national 2011 American Board for Certification for Teachers of Excellence (ABCTE) Teacher of the Year. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives honor and congratulate Michelle Gilmer of Pendleton High School in Anderson for being named national 2011 American Board for Certification for Teachers of Excellence Teacher of the Year, and extend sincere appreciation for her outstanding leadership and many contributions to education in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Michelle Gilmer.

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