**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LORRAINE WASHINGTON DENNIS FOR HER SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUMTER COMMUNITY, AND TO CONGRATULATE HER UPON BEING NAMED TO THE WOMEN’S HONOR ROLL OF SUMTER COUNTY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Lorraine Washington Dennis was named to Sumter County’s Women’s Honor Roll; and

Whereas, in celebration of Women’s History Month, the Sumter Volunteers, Inc., named Lorraine Dennis as one of three inductees to the 2012 class of the Women’s Honor Roll for her outstanding contributions to the Sumter community; and

Whereas, the first celebration of Women’s History Week began quietly in 1977 in Sonoma County, California, as an educational project, and by 1981, the United States Congress had passed a resolution to recognize National Women’s History Week; and

Whereas, as national recognition of women’s contributions to history and accomplishments in American culture increased, the United States Congress expanded the celebration to a month; and

Whereas, since 1991, Sumter has observed the celebration under the auspices of the YWCA of the Upper Lowlands, and in 1993, Sumter Volunteers established The Women’s Honor Roll to honor women who had made significant contributions to its history; and

Whereas, this year’s class brought the total number of the Sumter honorees to ninety‑nine and included Lorraine Washington Dennis, assistant county administrator for Sumter County government; and

Whereas, a Sumter native, Mrs. Dennis earned a bachelor’s in professional English from Benedict College and a master’s in public administration from Troy State University; and

Whereas, she began her career of public service in community outreach for Wateree Community Actions, Inc., and then served on the Sumter City‑County Planning Commission as a community development specialist and later as a land‑use planner; and

Whereas, first employed by Sumter County in 1996 to write grant proposals, Mrs. Dennis became the director of human resources in 1998, and in 2007 deputy administrator was added to that title; and

Whereas, she is a member and past president of the Sumter County League of Women Voters; she serves on the board of directors and is past chairwoman of Wateree Community Actions, serves on the steering committee of Festival on the Avenue, and serves on the board of directors of the Sumter County African American Museum Board; and

Whereas, actively involved in Sumter Little Theatre, Mrs. Dennis recently performed in the musical *Crown*, and as a member of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, she serves as a trustee and chairwoman on the board of the Enrichment Center; and

Whereas, together with her beloved husband, Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis, she has reared a fine son, Grayson Anthony; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the work of the Sumter Volunteers, Inc., for identifying and honoring outstanding women in the community, and they are grateful for the example and years of dedicated service that Lorraine Washington Dennis has provided to Sumter County. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Lorraine Washington Dennis for her significant contributions to the Sumter community, and congratulate her upon being named to the Women’s Honor Roll of Sumter County.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Lorraine Washington Dennis.

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