**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATH OF THE REVEREND GEORGE BENJAMIN “BEN” GUY, JR., OF CHESTER 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 the Reverend George Benjamin “Ben” Guy, Jr., of Chester on June 1, 2012; and

Whereas, the second of three children born to George B. Guy, Sr., and Mary A. McCall Guy, Chester native George Benjamin “Ben” Guy, Jr., entered this world on February 8, 1961. He was educated in the public schools of Chester County and graduated from Chester High School in 1978, furthering his education at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte and Livingstone College in Salisbury, both in North Carolina; and

Whereas, in his growing‑up years, Ben was a scholar, an athlete, and a musician with skill on saxophone and percussion, which he put to use playing in the band in middle school and high school. At an early age, he joined Browns Chapel AME Zion Church, where he served faithfully with the Gospel choir, usher board, Busy Bee Club for Youth, Sunday School, and other organizations; and

Whereas, the versatile Ben Guy served during his life as a car salesman with Kirby Autos, disc jockey with WGCD Radio, attendant with Chester County Hospital, mechanic with Guy’s Tires & Batteries, and employee of PP&G Industry; and

Whereas, in 1994, he was called to the most rewarding position of any, the ministry of God’s Word. Reverend Guy preached his initial sermon at Browns Chapel AME Zion Church, where he stood as a testament to God’s great mercy and as a mouthpiece and hands of service for the Heavenly Father. During his ministry, Reverend Guy pastored three churches, Williamsville AME Zion Church, Cedar Grove AME Zion Church, and Ebenezer AME Zion Church in Smyrna, where he served until his death; and

Whereas, while ministering at Ebenezer, he served on several boards, including the York‑Chester District Examiners of New Clergy, State of the Church (chair), and Conference Courtesy Committee; and

Whereas, committed to helping his community, he served successfully on the Chester City Council and the Chester County Historical Society Committee. In addition, following the example of his father, former Chester County Councilman George Guy, Sr., who was founder and chair of the MLK Celebration Committee, Reverend Guy continued to devote himself to Chester County’s efforts to commemorate the legacy of the late Dr. King; and

Whereas, Reverend Guy also was instrumental in helping to elect political candidates to national, state, county, and city offices. Respected for his knowledge of the political system, he spoke with courage for what he believed and worked tirelessly to register new voters and encourage citizens to exercise their voting rights; and

Whereas, to his family, he was a devoted father of two children, George B. “Trey” Guy III and David I. Guy; step‑father of Nicholas Yearwood; grandfather of Derrell L.K. Guy; and step‑grandfather of Davion Anderson; and

Whereas, he will be greatly missed by his dear family, church, friends, and the community at large. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express the profound sorrow of the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives upon the death of the Reverend George Benjamin “Ben” Guy, Jr., of Chester and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be if further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to George B. “Trey” Guy III for the family.

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