**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MARIE BARBER ADAMS AND DEBORAH SCOTT BROOKS FOR THEIR VALUABLE WORK IN RESEARCHING AND COMPILING STORIES OF AFRICAN‑AMERICAN FAMILIES IN LOWER RICHLAND COUNTY, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR THEIR NEW BOOK, *AFRICAN AMERICANS OF LOWER RICHLAND COUNTY*, SOON TO BE RELEASED.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that Marie Barber Adams and Deborah Scott Brooks have authored a new book, *African Americans of Lower Richland County*, to be released in September 2011 by Arcadia Publishing; and

Whereas, cousins and lifelong friends, Marie Barber Adams and Deborah Scott Brooks, grew up attending the church and playing on the farm of their ancestors, and in their retirement they have reacquainted themselves with the familiar folklore of their childhood; and

Whereas, a retired educator with Richland County, Marie Barber Adams grew up in Hopkins on the land where the Harriet Barber House now stands, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

Whereas, with her three sisters she led the restoration project to restore the home and property originally purchased in 1872 by their great‑grandparents, Sam and Harriet Barber; and

Whereas, she serves as the board chair of the South East Rural Community Outreach (SERCO), an organization dedicated to preserving history and enriching communities of the Lower Richland Heritage Corridor; and

Whereas, after returning to Columbia when she retired, Deborah Scott Brooks began a project for a family reunion by gathering old family photographs and information, which developed into a twelve‑week series published in the *Columbia Star*; and

Whereas, the series, which began with encouragement from publisher Dr. Warner Montgomery, was entitled “Plowing, Praying, and Paying Dues” and served as an inspiration for further work; and

Whereas, the pictographic book vividly traces the powerful heritage of the migratory trail of African‑American families starting in Kingville and moving through Gadsden, Congaree/Weston, Hopkins, and Eastover; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the rigorous research and extensive efforts of Marie Barber Adams and Deborah Scott Brooks to preserve the rich heritage of African‑American families in Lower Richland and wish them success as their new work, *African Americans of Lower Richland County*, is released. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Marie Barber Adams and Deborah Scott Brooks for their valuable work in researching and compiling stories of African‑American families in Lower Richland County, and congratulate them for their new book, *African Americans of Lower Richland County*, soon to be released.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Marie Barber Adams and Deborah Scott Brooks.

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