**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. MARY BLANDING HALLUMS FOR HER THIRTY‑SEVEN YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR IN SOUTH CAROLINA UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AND TO WISH HER THE BEST IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the Senate have learned that Dr. Mary Blanding Hallums soon will be retiring after thirty‑seven years as an educator, four of those years in the Greenville County Schools and thirty‑three in Sumter County School District Two; and

Whereas, her passion for music, which initially brought her into education, and her vitality both in and out of the classroom are defining characteristics that made her one of her school’s most beloved teachers in the early days. These characteristics, as well as her commitment to excellence, continued to earn her the respect of colleagues, students, and parents after she moved into administration; and

Whereas, in preparation for her long career, Dr. Hallums earned her bachelor’s degree in music education at Hampton University in Virginia, followed by a master’s degree in choral music education from the University of Michigan and a doctorate in education administration from South Carolina State University; and

Whereas, she has served over the years as an administrator at the school and district levels and beyond in varied positions. These include assistant principal at Shaw Heights Elementary School, High Hills Middle School, and Furman High School; principal at St. John Elementary School and Mayewood Middle School; director of Title I/Family Literacy and Grants; coordinator of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act; and executive director of Comprehensive School Reform; and

Whereas, Dr. Hallums also has taught on the college level at several institutions and currently teaches at Liberty University and Walden University; and

Whereas, in recognition of her contributions to her profession, she has received numerous awards, among them the Superintendent’s Award for Excellence in Administration, South Carolina Leadership Award, and Pee Dee IRA Leadership Award; and

Whereas, believing strongly in active involvement in the community, Dr. Hallums has served on the board of Central Carolina Technical College and has been a part of the South Carolina State University Alumni Association, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Council for Teachers of Math, International Reading Association, Sumter Reading Council, National Community Educational Association, Bible Way Church of Atlas Road, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and NAACP; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper for the members of the Senate to pause in their deliberations to recognize the many accomplishments of this daughter of South Carolina upon her retirement after a distinguished career as a public school educator. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Dr. Mary Blanding Hallums for her thirty‑seven years of faithful service as an educator in South Carolina upon the occasion of her retirement and wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Mary Blanding Hallums.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑