**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR ALICE AND ANTHONY HURLEY FOR THEIR SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN FOUNDING COLUMBIA’S POINSETTIA COTILLION AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM UPON BEING NAMED 2014 HONOREES OF THE LITTLE BLACK DRESS SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.

Whereas, the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina were pleased to learn that Alice and Anthony Hurley will be honored by the Little Black Dress Scholarship Committee for founding the Poinsettia Cotillion in Columbia; and

Whereas, on Saturday, March 15, 2014, the recipients of the 2014 award will be recognized at the Little Black Dress Scholarship Luncheon at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia, entitled “A Trip to the Motherland...A Tribute to Nelson Mandela”; and

Whereas, several years ago, Irma Smith Lowman of Columbia and Mary Reed of Orlando, Florida, brought the Little Black Dress Luncheon to Columbia to generate camaraderie while honoring distinguished women who have given service to the community. Proceeds from the event are contributed to a well‑deserving, disadvantaged student. This year an exception to the stated purpose of honoring women has been made so that the contributions of Anthony Hurley could be acknowledged; and

Whereas, Anthony Hurley, a native of Columbia, graduated from Palmer Memorial Institute in Sedalia, North Carolina, and Cincinnati School of Embalming, and he attended Morehouse College. He and his beloved wife own and operate the Manigault‑Hurley Funeral Home, a seventy‑five year old family establishment in Columbia; and

Whereas, he served his country with honor and distinction in the United States Army, and he is a 32nd Degree Prince Hall Mason, C.C. Johnson Consistory; and

Whereas, a native of Charlotte, North Carolina, Alice Hurley is a graduate of Palmer Memorial Institute, Boston University, and Atlanta University School of Social Work. She worked at radio station WERD in Atlanta, Georgia, retired in 1996 as coordinator of school social workers for Richland County School District One; and

Whereas, Mrs. Hurley has served on the board of the Eboni Dance Theatre; on the W. A. Perry Middle School Task Force; the advisory board of the state’s School Improvement Council Assistance; the South Carolina Department of Education’s Character Education Advisory Board; the Jones McDonald Community Club; the Columbia Link’s, Inc.; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; and

Whereas, together the Hurleys helped organize the Columbia Affiliate of the National Urban League in 1967, and their noteworthy service in this significant organization was recognized in 1996 as they received the Order of the Palmetto, the state’s highest civilian award, from the governor of South Carolina; and

Whereas, in 1980, Mr. and Mrs. Hurley organized and founded the Poinsettia Cotillion to provide the Columbia community with a privately funded debutante ball for African Americans; and

Whereas, the Poinsettia Balls have traditionally been held in December after Christmas, and they have continued to be viable balls in the Columbia community; and

Whereas, devoted members of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Mr. and Mrs. Hurley reared three fine children: Brian Wyche Hurley, M.D., Kelly L. Hurley, and Michelle Manigault‑Hurley; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the outstanding contributions that Alice and Anthony Hurley have made to their community in starting Columbia’s Poinsettia Cotillion and applaud their inclusion as 2014 honorees of the Little Black Dress Scholarship Committee. 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 Alice and Anthony Hurley for their significant role in founding Columbia’s Poinsettia Cotillion and congratulate them upon being named 2014 honorees of the Little Black Dress Scholarship Committee.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Alice and Anthony Hurley.

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