**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THELMA BROOKS SALMOND FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION, BUSINESS, AND THE ARTS AND TO CONGRATULATE HER UPON BEING NAMED A 2014 HONOREE OF THE LITTLE BLACK DRESS SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.

Whereas, the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina were pleased to learn that Thelma Brooks Salmond will be honored by the Little Black Dress Scholarship Committee for her leadership in education, business, and the arts; and

Whereas, on Saturday, March 15, 2014, the recipients of the 2014 award will be recognized at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia at the Little Black Dress Scholarship Luncheon, 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; and

Whereas, Thelma Salmond earned a bachelor’s degree from Benedict College and a master’s from South Carolina State University and completed additional studies at Temple University and the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, as an educator, she served as a readiness teacher, a first‑grade teacher, a special‑needs teacher, and a curriculum‑resource teacher for Richland County School District One; and

Whereas, a life member of the National Education Association and the South Carolina Education Association, she served on the South Carolina Area Reading Council and the Council for Exceptional Children as its president, vice president, and secretary; and

Whereas, after her retirement from education, Mrs. Salmond pursued a career in real estate and has served as a lecturer and competent toastmaster (CTM) to train individuals and groups on a local, national, and international stage for noted corporations; and

Whereas, a leader in the Girl Scouts of America for ten years, she is a life member of the NAACP, a life member and former president of the Benedict College National Alumni Association, a charter member of the Columbia Palmetto Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, and a member of the Gamma Nu Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; and

Whereas, Mrs. Salmond was a charter board member and three‑term president of the Eboni Dance Theatre, founded to offer dance experience opportunities to African Americans; and

Whereas, the recipient of the Columbia Ministerial Association Award for her work in the arts, she was appointed by Columbia Mayor Bob Coble to serve on the city’s Arts Task Force and now serves on the Columbia Music Festival Association’s board; and

Whereas, a devoted member of First Calvary Baptist Church, Mrs. Salmond serves on the Deacon Wives and Minister Spouses Board, on the Pulpit Aid Ministry, and in Madrigals Choir; and

Whereas, together with her beloved husband and Benedict College sweetheart, Dr. Jasper Salmond, she reared two fine children, Jeryl and Jenita, who blessed their parents with nine adoring grandchildren and seven great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina appreciate the contributions that Thelma Salmond has made to her community and applaud her inclusion as a 2014 honoree of the Little Black Dress Scholarship Committee. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognizes and honors Thelma Brooks Salmond for her contributions to education, business, and the arts and congratulates her upon being named a 2014 honoree of the Little Black Dress Scholarship Committee.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Thelma Brooks Salmond.

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