**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR AXEL D. ADAMS, A NOTED NATIONAL CIVIC, BUSINESS, AND POLITICAL LEADER AND NATIVE SOUTH CAROLINIAN, FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS AND MANY OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELDS OF POLITICS, BUSINESS, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH.

Whereas, a Palmetto native of New Ellenton, who now resides in Atlanta, Axel D. Adams is the son of Mattie Adams and the late Albert Adams, Sr. He graduated from Aiken County public schools and earned a degree in business from the University of Phoenix; and

Whereas, Mr. Adams is a noted presenter, national leader, and speaker appearing on platforms at conferences, churches, colleges/universities, community events, and television and radio programs; and

Whereas, at the age of 22, he was the first African‑American elected to serve on New Ellenton City Council and the youngest elected in the State, serving two four‑year terms, and he served as the acting mayor and police commissioner for three years, the first African‑American to serve in those capacities; and

Whereas, a cofounder of the Aiken County NAACP Youth Council, Mr. Adams was honored when the South Carolina NAACP Youth and College Division named an award in his honor, entitled the “Axel D. Adams Advisor of the Year Award” for exemplary service; and

Whereas, for more than twelve years, he served as a supervisor in the nuclear material processing division at the Department of Energy Westinghouse Savannah River Company working with various isotopes. He was the first African‑American to receive the Westinghouse Savannah River Company’s Community Service Award for his work with youth and as an elected official; and

Whereas, now serving as the National Director of the 1000 Churches Connected Program with the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, founded by Reverend Dr. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., Mr. Adams is responsible for building, deepening, and leveraging partnerships with almost three thousand pastors, representing approximately 2.5 million congregants across the nation; and

Whereas, he was hired by Reverend Jackson as the chief operations officer (COO) and deputy executive director in the Chicago headquarters’ office, the youngest person to serve in the position of managing and directing national and international operations for the civil rights organization, and he started the organization’s Youth Conference track; and

Whereas, he manages such initiatives as financial literacy, which has provided classes for over thirty thousand individuals, and works with banking institutions such as Wells Fargo and Bank of America to assist churches and homeowners in avoiding foreclosure; and

Whereas, he is also the owner of the AAdamsGroup, a management firm specializing in faith‑based marketing, artist management, and public relations, and he founded the Minorities Network which assists corporations in finding qualified minority businesses to expand in the market place; and

Whereas, he currently serves on several significant boards and committees, such as Knowl Tec & Associates; Motivating Offspring Over Negativity (MOON) in Charlotte, North Carolina; and National Association to Broaden and Enhance Images, Inc. (NABEI), in Atlanta; and

Whereas, earlier in his career, he served as a consultant for Congressman Butler Derrick’s re‑election campaign in the state’s Third Congregational District and as a coordinator for the Third Congressional District in the presidential campaign for Reverend Jesse Jackson in 1988; and

Whereas, currently, a book is being written about his life as the first African‑American and youngest elected public official in South Carolina at certain points in time for particular offices. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Axel D. Adams, a noted national civic, business, and political leader and native South Carolinian, for his significant contributions and many outstanding achievements in the fields of politics, business, and community outreach.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Axel D. Adams.

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