**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PAULA HARPER BETHEA ON THE OCCASION OF HER BECOMING PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION “MY CAROLINA” AND TO WISH HER MUCH SUCCESS DURING HER TENURE.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that Paula Harper Bethea will become President of the University of South Carolina Alumni Association “My Carolina” in July 2014; and

Whereas, Mrs. Bethea was born in Hampton County, graduated from Estill High School, and earned a bachelor’s degree in English from the University of South Carolina in 1975; and

Whereas, Mrs. Bethea has made significant contributions to our state, region, and nation’s civic and business communities over the years; and

Whereas, she was one of nine South Carolinians chosen to serve on the initial lottery commission in 2001, and helped launch the state’s first successful lottery game the following year; and

Whereas, in 2009, Ms. Bethea became the Executive Director of the South Carolina Education Lottery, which has generated more than $3.3 billion for education in South Carolina; and

Whereas, she has been a strong advocate for education in South Carolina, serving on the Boards of Columbia College and Presbyterian College, the Medical University of South Carolina Foundation, and the Wilkins Forum at Furman University; and

Whereas, she has been instrumental in enhancing economic development efforts in the State through her service as Chair of the South Carolina Centers of Economic Excellence, the Palmetto Institute, South Carolina Competitiveness Council, South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, and the MCI Heritage Classic Foundation; and

Whereas, she has served in national leadership roles including Chair of the United Way of America’s Board of Governors becoming the first woman to serve in this position; and

Whereas, Ms. Bethea was awarded the Order of the Palmetto in 1992 for her service to South Carolina; and

Whereas, her current service on the Alumni Association’s Board of Governors, her tremendous efforts to raise funds for the new Carolina Alumni Center, her numerous leadership experiences and dedication to education in our State will position her to lead the “My Carolina” Alumni Association and serve as the Alumni Representative on the University’s Board of Trustees; and

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Paula Harper Bethea on the occasion of her becoming President of the University of South Carolina Alumni Association “My Carolina” and to wish her much success during her tenure.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Paula Harper Bethea.

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