**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE WAVERLY HISTORIC DISTRICT OF RICHLAND COUNTY AND CONGRATULATE ITS ASSOCIATION, RESIDENTS, AND EXTENDED COMMUNITY UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY IN 2013 AND TO COMMEND THEM FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO THE PRESERVATION OF WAVERLY’S BUILDINGS AND HISTORY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that the Waverly Historic District, one of a small number of residential National Register of Historic Places districts in our State that is focused on African American twentieth century life in South Carolina, celebrates the milestone of its one hundredth anniversary in 2013; and

Whereas, roughly bounded by Hampton, Heidt, Gervais, and Harden streets, the Waverly District, significant as the historic core of the Waverly community, was originally an early subdivision of an 1855 antebellum plantation by the same name on the outskirts of Columbia and was annexed in 1913 at the request of resident Lysander D. Childs. By the early twentieth century, the district had evolved into a community of African American artisans, professionals, and social reformers, many of whom made significant contributions to the social and political advancement of African Americans in South Carolina; and

Whereas, the Waverly District’s list of civil rights and professional leaders who have resided in the district includes the Honorable Matthew J. Perry, Jr., South Carolina’s first African American Federal Judge and the lead attorney in the 1963 case, *Edwards v. South Carolina*; Modjeska Monteith Simkins, ‘Matriarch of the South Carolina Civil Rights Movement’; Dr. John Jacob Starks, first Black President of Benedict College and President of Morris College in Sumter and of Seneca Institute in Seneca and who aided Levi G. Byrd in the formation of the South Carolina NAACP State Conference of Branches in 1939; James M. Hinton, President, South Carolina Conference of NAACP 1941‑1958; Drink Small, ‘The Blues Doctor’; and Edwin Roberts Russell, one of the few African American scientists who worked on the Manhattan Project during World War II; and

Whereas, the Waverly Historic District is the location of Allen University, founded 1870; St. Matrin de Porres Catholic Church, founded 1936; First Nazareth Baptist Church, built 1881; Bishop Memorial AME, formerly Woodrow Memorial Presbyterian Church, founded 1907; St. Luke Episcopal Church, built 1883; and First Calvary Baptist Church, founded 1875; and

Whereas, in 1989 the Waverly District became a National Register of Historic Places district, the only African American residential National Historic District in Columbia and remains the subject of ongoing preservation efforts. In 2009, it celebrated the twentieth anniversary of this designation by placing bronze plaques from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History on ten of its National Register contributing properties; and

Whereas, the Waverly Historic District has earned five historical markers for the Visanska Starks House, the James M. Hinton House, the Heidt‑Russell House, the Matthew J. Perry site, and for the Waverly District itself; and

Whereas, the General Assembly is grateful for the Waverly Historic Districts’ one hundred years and its continued efforts to extol and advance the value of civil and human rights, the importance of education, and the critical nature of understanding and remembering history, and the members take great pleasure in saluting Waverly for its fine achievements. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Waverly Historic District of Richland County and congratulate its association leadership, residents, and members of the extended community upon the occasion of its centennial anniversary and commend them for their dedication to the preservation of Waverly’s buildings and history.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Historic Waverly Improvement and Protection Association President, Doris Hildebrand, Martin Luther King Association and Lower Waverly President, Durham Carter, Lyon Street Community Association President, Marvin Heller, both later extensions of the Waverly community, and Historic Waverly Improvement and Protection historian, Catherine Fleming Bruce.

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