**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATH OF MAXINE HERRING PARKER OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Maxine Herring Parker of Birmingham, Alabama, on November 12, 2013; and

Whereas, Ms. Parker retired as a forty‑one‑year employee of Talladega College, Alabama’s oldest historically black college, founded in 1867. She served as executive assistant to the president and was delighted to have served for twenty‑seven years as secretary to the Talladega College Board of Trustees. Her long tenure at Talladega afforded her the opportunity to serve under the administration of six presidents and six board chairpersons; and

Whereas, in November 2005, Maxine Herring Parker was elected to serve as Birmingham City Council representative for District 4. During the election, Councilwoman Parker’s platform focused on bettering the quality of life for citizens in her district. In August 2013, she was reelected to a third term, and by a unanimous vote her colleagues selected her president of the 2013‑2017 Birmingham City Council. Throughout her tenure on the council, she promoted economic and community development and championed environmental issues, with her work leading to passage of a vehicular/pedestrian bridge on F.L. Shuttlesworth Drive and to Environmental Protection Agency investigations into hazards plaguing District 4 residents; and

Whereas, fittingly, Ms. Parker’s son, now serving in his mother’s council seat, is carrying on her committed work to improve quality of life for all citizens in their community; and

Whereas, the State of South Carolina is particularly grateful for Ms. Parker’s fine work with the EPA in peer‑to‑peer training within communities, a labor that has greatly influenced communities throughout the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, a woman of faith, Maxine Parker was a lifelong member of Oak Street Baptist Church, where she actively engaged in all facets of church life. She served as clerk‑secretary and was a member of the Flora Herring Mission and Women’s Sunday School Bible Class. Her life was characterized by the outlook expressed in the words of an old hymn: “If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain.” She will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the death of Maxine Herring Parker of Birmingham, Alabama, and extend the deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the family.

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