**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE MS. MARIA E. WALLS, TREASURER OF BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON BEING NAMED OFFICE HOLDER OF THE YEAR BY THOMSON REUTERS, AND TO WISH HER MUCH SUCCESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the Senate are pleased to learn that the tax and accounting firm of Thomson Reuters named Maria Walls, Treasurer of Beaufort County, for its annual Office Holder of the Year award; and

Whereas, Ms. Walls was selected among 1,000 Thomson Reuters’ government officials worldwide to receive this prestigious award for her agency’s successful implementation of several technology initiatives; and

Whereas, Ms. Walls was elected treasurer in November 2014 after serving four years as deputy treasurer. In her role as deputy treasurer, Ms. Walls created and implemented the first ever internal control policies for the Treasurer’s Office; and

Whereas, under her skillful leadership as treasurer, the Treasurer’s Office has moved to a completely digital and paperless system. She also led in the development of a new website that makes the county’s processes more accessible. In addition, she created and implemented an electronic cash receipting program, imposed checks and balances in the department, eliminated the ability to generate checks within the office, reducing the risk of fraud, and created an online registration process for delinquent tax sale bidders; and

Whereas, Ms. Walls is a graduate of Rider University where she earned a Masters of Accounting with a specialization in International Business; and

Whereas, Ms. Walls is a member of the South Carolina Association of CPAs, and serves on the association’s legislative committee. In 2010, she was selected to join the association’s Young CPA Cabinet, a program exclusive to twenty individuals in the state geared towards the development of leadership and management skills in the CPA profession. She is also a member of Toastmasters International; and

Whereas, Ms. Walls is active in her community, serving on her church council, volunteering for Palmetto Animal League and other local nonprofits, conducting financial literacy seminars as part of the Financial Literacy Project, and holding leadership roles in partisan organizations. She is also a member of the Junior Service League of Beaufort. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, recognize and congratulate Ms. Maria E. Walls, Treasurer of Beaufort County, South Carolina, on being named Office Holder of the Year by Thomson Reuters, and wish her much success in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Ms. Maria Walls.

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