**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE GOSPEL MUSIC ARTIST KENDRA SMITH ON CAPTURING THE 2015 STELLAR AWARD FOR YOUTH PROJECT OF THE YEAR AND TO WISH THIS TALENTED YOUNG WOMAN MUCH SUCCESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Gospel music artist Kendra Smith has won the 2015 Stellar Award for Youth Project of the Year; and

Whereas, Chicago‑based Central City Productions, Inc., produces the Stellar Gospel Music Awards. Over its thirty‑year history, it has become the premier Gospel event that recognizes and honors African‑American artists. This one‑of‑a‑kind award show has showcased top Gospel artists and many television and film stars; and

Whereas, one of only three South Carolinians ever to take home a Stellar Award, Kendra Smith is also the youngest of those three South Carolina winners, as well as Florence’s first winner. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Tasha Smith of Florence; and

Whereas, Kendra’s album, *Something New*, recorded when she was sixteen and seventeen and released in 2014, was the source of her win. The album contains ten songs, including two singles, “Deep Down” and “I Praise You”; and

Whereas, since she won a Stellar Award, bookings have been flooding in for the eighteen‑year‑old South Florence High School senior, who is already scheduled to appear at several upcoming conferences and conventions. She will make some appearances in France, and in May she will perform for the North Carolina Gospel Announcers’ Guild; and

Whereas, Kendra explains why she sings Gospel music, rather than rock, this way: “Gospel music changes lives. Other music, it makes you feel good…, but Gospel music, it can change your life”; and

Whereas, like many Gospel artists, Kendra started singing in church, and her dad, a church musician, discovered her talent there. Indeed, she was born into a family of musicians. In addition to the talent that came to her through her father, who plays various instruments, Kendra inherited musical gifts from her great‑grandmother, who was a singer. Kendra hopes to continue her musical training at the college level; and

Whereas, proud of her accomplishments, the House takes great pleasure in saluting Kendra Smith for winning a 2015 Stellar Award, and the members anticipate with interest hearing of her further achievements in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Gospel music artist Kendra Smith on capturing the 2015 Stellar Award for Youth Project of the Year and wish this talented young woman much success in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Kendra Smith.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑