**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MARGARETTE BELL MILLER OF SPARTANBURG COUNTY FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY.

Whereas, a native of Spartanburg, Margarette Bell Miller is the daughter of Mildred Bell and the late Reverend Luster Bell. In preparation for her career, she earned her bachelor’s degree in physical education at Benedict College and her master’s degree in adapted physical education at Ohio State University; and

Whereas, currently, this veteran educator with thirty‑five years’ experience is employed with Spartanburg School District Seven as a Cleveland Academy of Leadership physical education teacher. At Cleveland, she directs the Princess Club Program, which offers girls an opportunity to participate in community‑service projects, educational workshops, and social‑enrichment activities. For her outstanding work, in 2001 she was selected Teacher of the Year; and

Whereas, in addition, Mrs. Miller is the director/owner of the Margarette Bell Dance Studio, where she is known to many of her dancers as “Ms. Margarette.” The studio’s story began in 1979 after she returned home from graduate school and volunteered to teach dance classes at Mary H. Wright Elementary. Because of the overwhelming amount of community interest in her services, Mrs. Miller moved her dance school’s location to Peronneau Street and in 1987, to Harris Place. Her recital halls likewise changed, the present venue being Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium. The Margarette Bell Dancers performed for churches, schools, pageants, and other organizations; and

Whereas, over the years, Mrs. Miller has assisted countless young girls in the community to explore their interest in the performing arts and develop their talents and etiquette skills. She donates up to five thousand dollars a year in scholarships to graduating high school seniors. This summer, she will celebrate thirty‑six years in business. Mrs. Miller motivates students in her dance classes to participate in cotillions, pageants, after‑school activities, and Emerging Young Leader programs; and

Whereas, Mrs. Miller has been a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., for forty‑one years and in 2014 was voted Soror of the Year. She is extremely creative and exhibits excellence in preparing for the chapter’s projects, is well organized and works tirelessly to ensure exceptional presentations, and purposely plans activities to use the project activities as a time of fellowship with members, involved youth, and their family members. Mrs. Miller demonstrates “sisterliness” and promotes teamwork in whatever task she undertakes; and

Whereas, a woman of faith, Margarette Bell Miller is a member of Faith Tabernacle Church, where she participates in Sunday School, Bible study, Shepherd’s Care Ministry, Christians in Action, First Impression Ministry, and Couples Ministry. She is a member of the Spartanburg Chapter of The Links, Inc., and a former director/choreographer of the Miss Black Spartanburg‑Miss Black Upstate Scholarship Pageant, which she served for more than twenty‑five years; and

Whereas, in recognition of her spirit of excellence and dedicated service, Mrs. Miller has been granted various honors, among them the Spartanburg Technical College Women’s History Award, Project Unity Outstanding Leadership in the Community Award, Woman of the Year Award, and Women’s Achievement Award; and

Whereas, on the home front, Margarette is the proud wife of Marion “Dooley” Miller, and the two have a fine family of three children, Lustra Miller, Syreeta Miller, and Titus Miller, as well as two adorable grandchildren, Tieraney and Titus, Jr. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Margarette Bell Miller of Spartanburg County for her many years of distinguished service to her community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Margarette Bell Miller.

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