**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE NICOLE CHAVERS STRATTON OF GREENVILLE FOR BEING AN OUTSTANDING TEACHER IN THE FIELD OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC PRODUCTION AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, Nicole Chavers Stratton, a 1996 graduate of the Academy of Arts Christian High School in Taylors, South Carolina, received commendations for her outstanding record receiving first place in solo and duet speech categories as well as in music categories in national competition during her high school years; and

Whereas, Mrs. Stratton completed her educational pursuit through the college program of the Academy of Arts, receiving an associate degree in fine arts and a master’s teaching certificate; and

Whereas, Mrs. Stratton has served as a staff member of the Academy of Arts since 1995, during which time she has served as makeup and costume coordinator, acting coach, summer team director, writer and director, faculty member, and administrative assistant. She has served as the school’s artistic director since 2007; and

Whereas, she has traveled across the United States for the past twenty years to schools and home school groups, conducting dramatic word seminars, directing at least thirteen different productions with casts of forty to one hundred members, involving well over 5,000 elementary and high school students in the arts; and

Whereas, Mrs. Stratton has been commissioned to write and produce many dramas, including “The Founding of Jamestown”, a production which describes the history of Jamestown, Virginia; “The Venture of 1620”, commissioned for the 150th anniversary of the erection of the Founder’s Memorial Monument in Plymouth, Massachusetts; and

Whereas, Mrs. Stratton and her husband, Noah, direct the Logos Theatre in Taylors, South Carolina, continuing the vision of her parents, Nicky and Sheri Chavers, who founded the Academy of Arts in January 1971. The Strattons have taken the level of professionalism in the Logos Theatre to a new level of excellence that has brought visitors to Taylors from all across the United States to view productions such as “Our Town”, “Little Women”, “Narnia”, and “Silent Star”, a Christmas musical that Nicole and her father have written and produced. They have scheduled outstanding musical concerts performed by “The King’s Singers’ from London, The Brown Family, and a Celtic love songs concert; and

Whereas, hundreds of local students are able to train their God‑given talents in a warm, friendly, nurturing and professional atmosphere with character building and talent enrichment programs guided by well‑trained staff and faculty who have been successfully enriching the lives of local families; and

Whereas, Mrs. Stratton has been accepted by the International Fringe Competition as a qualified director, one of forty chosen from Canada and the United States, to compete in the 2016 Theatre Arts Competition to be held in London and Edinburgh, Scotland; and

Whereas, The Academy of Arts Ministries, a nationally‑recognized ministry in good standing for over forty‑four years, whose headquarters has been in South Carolina since it received its charter in 1971, highly commends Nicole Chavers Stratton for her faithful service of reaching the youth of American through the fine arts and successfully training thousands of young people both locally and nationally each year, encouraging them to develop their God‑given talents and to live productive lives to the glory of God. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, recognize and congratulate Nicole Chavers Stratton as an exceptional educator in the field of music and dramatic production and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mrs. Nicole Chavers Stratton.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑