**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. VENUS J. HOLLAND, SUPERINTENDENT FOR LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AFTER A DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF FORTY YEARS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate have learned that on June 18, 2015, Dr. Venus Holland will begin a well‑deserved retirement after forty years of service as an educator, most recently as superintendent of Lexington County School District Two; and

Whereas, in preparation for her life’s work, Dr. Holland received a bachelor’s degree in social studies, English, and education at Oklahoma State University in 1974, followed by a master’s degree in education (curriculum and instruction) from Grand Valley State University in Michigan. In 1987, she received a doctorate in education administration from Kansas State University; and

Whereas, in 1975, Venus Holland began her career in public education at East Kentwood High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she taught social studies. Over the course of her career, she has served as a teacher, assistant principal, principal, and district‑office administrator; and

Whereas, after receiving her doctorate, Dr. Holland moved to South Carolina in 1987 and accepted a position as a teacher at Airport High School in Lexington County School District Two. Since that time, she has worked in a variety of administrative capacities in the district. She was named Lexington Two’s first female superintendent in 2008; and

Whereas, a respected leader within her profession, Dr. Holland has served as a consultant to the South Carolina Department of Education, South Carolina School Boards Association, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and Office of Leadership for Greenville Public Schools; and

Whereas, in recognition of her spirit of excellence and dedicated service to the people of South Carolina, Venus Holland has been granted various honors. In 2003, she was a National Scholarship Recipient as a C‑SPAN Educator and in 2004 was named Citizen of the Year by the West Metro Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, she has been recognized by the Kellogg Foundation Leadership Institute for Women Leaders of South Carolina and has been honored in *Who*’*s Who Among Executive and Professional Women in Education*. She was featured in *Education Executive Magazine* in 2011; and

Whereas, on the home front, Venus Holland is the proud wife of Dr. Reid Holland, a professor at Midlands Tech. The Hollands have just moved to a beautiful new home in Bluffton, where they will enjoy the pleasure of living near family. The Senate hopes that once the rigors of settling into a new home are over and retirement has begun, Dr. Holland will find herself more frequently able to indulge in those spare‑time activities that educators so often must reserve for the summer; and

Whereas, the Senate, grateful for the legacy of consistent commitment and excellence Dr. Holland has bestowed on the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in wishing her well as she enters retirement. The members trust she will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Dr. Venus J. Holland, superintendent for Lexington County School District Two, upon the occasion of her retirement after a distinguished career of forty years in the field of education and wish her continued success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Venus J. Holland.

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