**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR FRELICIA TUCKER OF AIKEN AND TO CONGRATULATE HER ON WINNING THE WENDY’S HIGH SCHOOL HEISMAN.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Frelicia Tucker was honored on December 9, 2016 in New York City as one of two Wendy’s High School Heisman winners chosen from ten finalists. She is the first South Carolina student to receive this honor; and

Whereas, a senior at Aiken High School, Tucker has been a member of the tennis and track teams since the seventh grade. She won the Class AAA state championship in the 400 meter hurdles race as a sophomore in 2015 and remains the reigning state champion. She was the captain of both the tennis and track teams and is an Aiken High cheerleader; and

Whereas, off the track and court, Tucker excels academically. She is the student body president, school valedictorian, a member of the National Honor Society, and recipient of the West Point Leadership Award; and

Whereas, standing as the state NAACP youth president, Tucker is also a leader outside of school, and she spends her free time working with various charitable organizations in the area. Last January, she delivered a speech on education equality in Columbia in front of Democratic presidential nominees Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders and an audience of more than four thousand; and

Whereas, Tucker is motivated by her twin and best friend, Fredericka, who also competes in tennis and track at Aiken, as well as the memory of her father, who introduced the twins to tennis and track but was killed in 2008, when Frelicia was only nine years old; and

Whereas, the Wendy’s High School Heisman, created by Wendy’s founder Dave Thomas in 1994 in partnership with the Heisman Trophy Trust, celebrates scholar‑athletes from high schools throughout the U.S. who give back to their communities and never settle, who dig deeper and reach higher. As part of the award, Tucker receives a $10,000 college scholarship, a $500 Wendy’s gift card, a national winner patch, the High School Heisman Trophy, and recognition during ESPN’s broadcast of the college football Heisman Trophy. Tucker will be headed to Rice University on a full scholarship; and

Whereas, Tucker’s passion and determination are immeasurable. A unique and hard‑working individual, she not only excels in academics and athletics, but also still makes time to give back to her community. Frelicia loves her family, school, and community; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the pride and recognition that Frelicia Tucker has brought to her school, her state, and her nation and look to hear of her continued success in 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 Frelicia Tucker of Aiken and congratulate her on winning the Wendy’s High School Heisman.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Frelicia Tucker.

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