**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR GEORGIA S. GOOD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RURAL ADVANCEMENT FUND, AND TO EXPRESS PROFOUND APPRECIATION FOR HER SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE IN RURAL AND FARMING COMMUNITIES FOR MORE THAN FORTY YEARS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the South Carolina General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to commend Georgia S. Good, Executive Director of the Rural Advancement Fund (RAF), for her years of outstanding contributions to low‑income people in rural areas of the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, born and raised on a farm, Georgia Good picked cotton to help her family make the $133 yearly land payment, and she left school from August to November every year to help with harvesting crops and in the spring to plant them. She used the apparent adversity of her life story as a catalyst for helping others; and

Whereas, she attended Claflin University, the University of California‑Berkley, the New York Training Institute, New York City College, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Fellowship (MIT); and

Whereas, when community medicine legislation was passed fifty years ago, Georgia Good was a pioneer who led the team to educate the nation, as well as local communities, on the importance of community medicine and its impact; and

Whereas, in 1970, she helped found a health clinic and organized the Orangeburg County Consumer Health Council for poor families. Still in operation today as the Family Health Center, Inc., it wields an annual economic impact of over twenty‑five million dollars; and

Whereas, through the RAF and as vice president of the Rural Coalition based in Washington, D. C., Ms. Good has worked since 1990 to improve USDA services to all farmers, including passage in the 1990 Farm Bill of a key program (2501) to assist small farm groups for economic development. With Rural Coalition she has been a leader on all Farm Bills since then, securing more than thirty sections of policy in 2008; and

Whereas, in 2015, she accepted an invitation to attend the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development hosted by the USDA Rural Development in Memphis, Tennessee, where she entered into dialogue with European counterparts on advancing rural development; and

Whereas, Ms. Good serves as a chair of World Farmers and a vice president of the Rural Coalition, helping to guide their work with two hundred seventy‑five refugee farmers, mostly from Africa, who are now farming on seventy acres of land in Massachusetts and selling at over forty farmers’ markets; and

Whereas, the many honors awarded to her include the Low Country Healthy Start Award; Ford Foundation Leadership Development Fellowship; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Woman of the Year; Professional Agricultural Workers Award for her work in the 2012 Farm Bill negotiations; the Tuskegee Life Time Achievement Award (N. Juanita Coleman & Ruth Clement Bond) for Community Service; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Global Poverty Award; and the Good Shepherd Community Service Award; and

Whereas, in January 2012, Ms. Good was chosen by President Barack Obama to participate in the White House Policy and Action Leadership Conference, and she has served on committees under President Jimmy Carter for migrants and seasonal farm workers; and

Whereas, a life member of the NAACP, she attends Mount Pisgah Baptist Church in Orangeburg and is the proud mother of two fine sons, Dr. Michael Good and Eric Good. She has been blessed with the affection of three grandchildren: David, Erica, and Robert; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly values the lifetime of service that this daughter of South Carolina has given to help so many of our rural and farming citizens. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor Georgia S. Good, Executive Director of the Rural Advancement Fund, and express profound appreciation for her significant assistance in rural and farming communities for more than forty years.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Georgia Good.

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