**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF PALMA BURGESS ANDREWS OF SUMTER AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened by the passing of Palma Burgess Andrews of Sumter on April 18, 2017, at the venerable age of nearly one hundred; and

Whereas, born in Greeleyville to the Reverend Junius and Mrs. Lillie Stukes Burgess, Palma Burgess Andrews entered this world on May 17, 1917, when the twentieth century was still in its youth, and she was a witness to many of the incredible changes and developments that have come to this nation from that time into the second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, the young Palma received her early education in the public schools of Clarendon and Sumter counties. She met and married the Reverend H.B. Andrews, and God blessed them with a fine family of three lovely daughters, Hermenia, Palmella, and Yvonne, as well as two charming granddaughters and one delightful great‑grandson; and

Whereas, Mrs. Andrews taught first grade and second grade at the Dennis School and Cooper Mill School, third grade at Fleming Elementary School, and ninth grade (French and English) at Mt. Pleasant High School. She retired from the Sumter County School District/Mayesville Institute after many years of teaching in the Lee County Schools; and

Whereas, Palma Burgess Andrews believed strongly in personal involvement with her community, and her convictions led her to serve that community faithfully. In the Sumter District AME churches, Mrs. Andrews served in many capacities. She spent her retirement years as past president of the NCNW and was past worthy matron queen of the Lynchburg Eastern Star; and

Whereas, she was active in registration activities and a member of the Board of Mental Health. She also served at St. Matthews AME Church as steward pro tem and choir director. In addition, she was past president of the local Interdenominational Ministers’ Wives Association and the AME Ministers’ Wives Association. In the Women’s Missionary Society, she served as president of the local and district chapters and was first vice president on the conference level; and

Whereas, preceded in death by her husband and a daughter, Hermenia Starchia, Palma Burgess Andrews leaves to cherish her memory her surviving daughters, Palmella A. Brown and Yvonne A. White; two granddaughters, Leisha Starchia and Arie White; a great‑grandson, Parris Starchia; and a host of other family members and friends. She will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Palma Burgess Andrews of Sumter and extend the deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Palmella A. Brown for the family.

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