**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF SHIRLEY CATHERINE SCIOLINO EMDEN OF ABBEVILLE 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 Shirley Catherine Sciolino Emden of Abbeville on November 30, 2017, at the venerable age of eighty‑five; and

Whereas, this longtime resident of Abbeville was born December 26, 1931, in Buffalo, New York, the daughter of Agnes (Hunt) and Samuel Sciolino. In time, Shirley met and wed Harry Emden, and the couple were blessed with forty‑five years together before Harry passed away. In 1986, she and Harry relocated to Abbeville after traveling the West and living in Colorado and Arizona. Settling into her new hometown, Shirley worked for the City of Abbeville as assistant city clerk, retiring in 1997; and

Whereas, as a tireless volunteer for many Abbeville organizations, Shirley labored to benefit her beautiful city both while working and after retiring. She spent more than a quarter century as a volunteer for the Abbeville Opera House and as a member of its board of directors. Notably, during her tenure she was project manager for seating renovation (1990s) and led the dressing room renovation project (mid 2000s), for which she obtained funding through the South Carolina Heritage Corridor in preparation for the one‑hundredth‑year gala in 2007. In addition, Shirley served many years as a box office volunteer and as an advocate for bringing quality theatrical entertainment to the region; and

Whereas, she was a former president and board member of the Abbeville County Library, where she spearheaded the purchase and design of the new Abbeville County Library, relocated on North Main Street in 2012. Shirley gave many selfless years of effort to the Friends of the Library and their book sales. To recognize her years of faithful volunteer service, the library plans to display Shirley’s portrait and will name the atrium of the library’s main branch in her honor; and

Whereas, Shirley was a founding member of United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County (UCMAC), which offers free food and medical care to Abbeville. She was proud of her association and enjoyed working with the volunteers at the UCMAC food pantry until September 2017. As a woman of faith, Shirley was also a long‑standing member of Main Street United Methodist Church in Abbeville; and

Whereas, in her last years, Shirley relished volunteering at the McGowan‑Barksdale‑Bundy House and was honored to be a board member of the Abbeville Historical Society. She was also a participant of the Literary Lantern Book Club and a long‑term board member of the City of Abbeville Planning Commission; and

Whereas, Mrs. Emden leaves to cherish her memory son Alan Thomas Sturm, daughters Rebecca Farmer (Jeff) and Patricia Sheafley (Eldon), four grandchildren, three great‑grandchildren, 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 Shirley Catherine Sciolino Emden of Abbeville and extend the deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Alan Thomas Sturm for the family.

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