**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SARAH BLACKWELL OF ANDERSON COUNTY UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RECENT RETIREMENT AFTER FIFTY‑FIVE YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS AN ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR FOR LATIMER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that Sarah Blackwell began a well‑deserved retirement in December 2016 after fifty‑five years of committed service to the congregation of Latimer Memorial United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, Sarah became a member of the church on January 27, 1959. In 1961, she offered her musical services as an organist, and when, later that year, the pastor was assigned elsewhere, she also took on the role of choir director; and

Whereas, in 1949, Sarah graduated from Columbia College, and as a dedicated Methodist, she soon became a member of the United Methodist Women (UMW). In the past, she has served at the district and state level of UMW and she is currently serving as the president of Latimer UMW. Throughout her time at Latimer, she has served as president in several other official capacities as well; and

Whereas, after her retirement from teaching elementary and middle school, Sarah has selflessly volunteered her time to transport people to their doctor’s appointments, sometimes even going as far as Duke University hospital in Durham, North Carolina; and

Whereas, understanding that Sarah Blackwell retired in December 2016 from the post she has filled so ably for the past fifty‑five years, the General Assembly wishes to express its gratitude for her exemplary service to the people of Anderson County and the congregation of Latimer Memorial United Methodist Church. The members hope she will find much joy in the increased leisure time she will soon be able to devote to family, friends, and other interests during a well‑earned retirement. She will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Sarah Blackwell of Anderson County upon the occasion of her recent retirement after fifty‑five years of outstanding service as an organist and choir director for Latimer Memorial United Methodist Church, 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 Sarah Blackwell.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑