**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND SYBRINA FULTON, MOTHER OF TRAYVON MARTIN, FOR HER COMMITMENT TO TRANSFORMING FAMILY TRAGEDY INTO SOCIAL CHANGE.

Whereas, Sybrina Fulton became solidly committed to transforming family tragedy into social change after the death of her seventeen‑year‑old son, Trayvon Martin, during a violent confrontation in February 2012. The event has catapulted her into becoming an inspiring spokesperson for parents and concerned citizens across the country; and

Whereas, the publicity surrounding Trayvon’s death and the ensuing trial stirred the country into national debate. Despite the intense struggle of losing a child, Ms. Fulton has become a role model to many by turning her grief into advocacy. She lends her voice to speaking against violence toward children and to underlining the need to build better, safer communities for all; and

Whereas, her message appeals to people’s hearts, being one of hope and change, exemplified by her personal experiences and endeavors. As a mother, she inspires audiences to educate their children continually about civil rights and to help them feel accepted as part of an ever‑changing society; and

Whereas, as an honest and relatable speaker, Sybrina Fulton always looks forward to sharing her powerful message with everyone from educational and legal professionals to community and family organizations, as well as all other proponents of social justice; and

Whereas, she created the Trayvon Martin Foundation out of a need to bring awareness to ending senseless gun violence, strengthening families through holistic support, and mentoring. The Circle of Mothers, founded in 2013, was established as a means of empowering women, and, thanks to sponsorships, it annually provides a full restoration weekend conference and retreat for mothers of children killed by gun violence; and

Whereas, during the retreat, each mother attends educational seminars crafted to facilitate the healing process and offer tools in leadership, guidance, and civic matters so that these mothers become more empowered and strengthened as they strive to make an impact in their communities; and

Whereas, a Miami native, Ms. Fulton graduated from Florida Memorial University, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in English. A proud mother to son Jahvaris, she worked for the Miami‑Dade County Housing Development Agency for more than twenty‑five years and is a member of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Miami Gardens. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin, for her commitment to transforming family tragedy into social change.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Sybrina Fulton.

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