**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF MARY CASSANDRA WILSON ON THE OCCASION OF HER SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER MANY YEARS OF CONTINUED HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives deem it altogether fitting and proper to pause in their deliberations to honor a great lady of South Carolina, Cassandra Wilson, on the occasion of her birthday; and

Whereas, known to many throughout this State and Nation as a mother, evangelist, singer, sister, daughter, wife, and a person with an unceasing heart for helping others regardless of who or where they are, Cassandra Wilson was born on March 26, 1958, to Gladys and the late L.J. Putman. Since that day she has sought to shine a light of hope and spiritual uplifting on all those around her; and

Whereas, as a child, she grew up watching her mother play the piano. This instilled in her a love of music which led to her involvement in the music ministry. She was a member of the gospel singing group “The Gospel Silverlettes,” who traveled throughout the State and beyond; and

Whereas, she is a graduate of Seneca High School and Tri‑county Technical classes. For over fifteen years, Mrs. Wilson has been an employee of Oconee Federal Savings and Loans, where she serves as a trustee, the first African‑American woman to do so; and

Whereas, in 2005, she was officially licensed into ministry at Faith in Action Revival Center by Pastor Anthony Wilson, Jr. She is married to the love of her life Curtis Wilson. They have spent over thirty glorious years together and have two treasured sons, Jamar and Michael. They also have the blessing of seven beloved grandchildren and a host of spiritual sons and daughters that look to Mrs. Wilson for prayer, advice, and mentorship; and

Whereas, in 2010, she was led to start a ministry that would lead not from the pulpit, but would minister to the people wherever they are. This ministry would be called “A Gift of Love Ministries.” The goal would include aiding people recently released from prison with a package of love, the mentorship of individuals, fellowship with those afflicted with sickness, and witnessing the love and life of Jesus through encouragement and empowerment. The motto of the ministry is “It’s not love until you give it away”; and

Whereas, many have said to know Mrs. Wilson is to be in the company of a genuine person who often shares wise words of spirituality, uplifting to whomever may be in need of such words; and

Whereas, there is a sweet presence of comfort in her demeanor that defies the ordinary day‑to‑day hustle which permeates the ongoing challenges life presents. Mrs. Wilson has an uncanny attitude and energy that is awe‑inspiring and impressive, able to move people from moments of despair to hope and action; and

Whereas, she knows no bounds to provide for the physical needs of her family, perform her civic duties, and evangelize to others to motive and inspire acceptance of eternal life in the Kingdom of God; and

Whereas, Proverbs 31:10, 26‑27 comes to mind when one thinks of Cassandra Wilson: “who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. She opens her mouth with wisdom; her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household and eateth not the bread of idleness”; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina are grateful for the life and legacy of Mary Cassandra Wilson and wish her much happiness throughout her life. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina, by this resolution, honor and celebrate the life of Cassandra Wilson on the occasion of her sixtieth birthday and wish her many years of continued health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Cassandra Wilson.

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