**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE PASSING OF ALMA WEAVER BYRD AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Alma Weaver Byrd on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at the age of ninety-two; and

Whereas, Alma was born in Aiken, South Carolina on September 18, 1924, daughter of the late Frank Ernest Weaver and the late Annie Lou Spann Weaver. She graduated from Benedict College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1944, from Columbia University with a Master of Arts degree in 1960, from the University of South Carolina with a PhD in 1978, from the Sorbonne with a Certificat d’Etude in 1960, and from Universite de Poitiers a La Rochelle with a Certificat d’Etude in 1960; and

Whereas, Alma served as a Republican member for the 74th District in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1991 to 1998; and

Whereas, Alma had a fulfilling career as an educator. She taught in the public schools, on European study tours, at Voorhees College, at Benedict College, and at Allen University; and

Whereas, Alma also served on the Board of Directors for the South Carolina School Board Association; on Richland County School District One as vice-chair, secretary, and chair; on the Basic Skills Advisory Committee; on the Southern Regional National School Board Black Caucus as vice president; and with the National School Board Association; and

Whereas, Alma was a member of Phi Sigma Iota International Honor Society, Phi Delta Kappa, Alpha Chi Honor Society, American Association of University Women, National Association of University Women, American Association of University Professors, American Legion Post 212, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, South Carolina Federation of Women’s and Girls’ Clubs, National Council of Negro Women, South Carolina Mechanism National Conference for Negro Women, National Conference for Negro Women Columbia, League of Women Voters, Young Women’s Christian Association, Gamma Nu Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Toastmasters, International Women’s Year Committee, Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, and University Bible Fellowship; and

Whereas, Alma received the Order of the Palmetto in 1983 and the South Carolina National Association of Social Workers Legislative Award in 1994. She was named African American Role Model by Southern Bell Calendar; and

Whereas, Alma was joined in holy matrimony to Wallace Byrd. Together, Alma and Wallace became active and faithful members of St. John Baptist Church in Columbia; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the life and legacy of Alma Weaver Byrd and for the example she set for all who knew her. She will be missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Alma Weaver Byrd and extend their deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Alma Weaver Byrd.

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