**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MRS. MELISSA RAWL UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS PRINCIPAL OF LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, TO COMMEND HER FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE YOUTH OF THIS STATE, AND TO WISH HER MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to recognize Mrs. Melissa Rawl upon the occasion of her retirement as principal of Lexington High School; and

Whereas, Melissa Rawl is an alumna of the University of South Carolina, where she earned an undergraduate degree, Master of Arts in Teaching with a concentration in English, and Master of Education in administrative leadership; and

Whereas, Mrs. Rawl has worked at schools in the Midlands for more than forty years; and

Whereas, she began her career in public education in 1978 as a teacher at Brookland‑Cayce High School. She later taught and served as department chair at Airport High School and Gilbert High School; and

Whereas, in 1998, Mrs. Rawl moved to Lexington High School, her alma mater, where she served as a teacher and the district’s secondary summer school coordinator. She became assistant principal in 2001 and principal in 2011. Under her outstanding leadership in these roles, Lexington High School has flourished and grown; and

Whereas, over the years, Mrs. Rawl has received many honors and awards, including the 2018 South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association 5A Principal of the Year Award, Lexington Rotary Club Lee Bullington Spirit Award, Palmetto Center for Women TWIN Award, 2008 South Carolina Association of School Administrators South Carolina Secondary Assistant Principal of the Year Award, Army National Guard Recognition of Support, 2000 Lexington High School Teacher of the Year finalist, 1994 Barbara H. James Award and Academic Teacher of the Year for Outstanding Contributions to and Support of Tech Prep, and 1990 Airport High School Teacher of the Year Award; and

Whereas, a quiet, calm leader, Mrs. Rawl cares about her teachers and employees and pushes them to offer the very best they have to their students; and

Whereas, the General Assembly is grateful for the passion, commitment, and dedication that this daughter of South Carolina has shown in serving the State and the people of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Mrs. Melissa Rawl upon the occasion of her retirement as principal of Lexington High School, commend her for her many years of dedicated public service to the youth of this State, and wish her much happiness and fulfillment in the years to come.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Melissa Rawl.

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