**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF PHILIP HOWELL, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE AIKEN COUNTY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, AND TO HONOR HIS REMARKABLE COMMITMENT TO THE IDEALS OF EQUALITY AND SERVING THE UNDERSERVED.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Philip Howell on Saturday, March 9, 2019; and

Whereas, an active Golden Heritage Life Member for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Mr. Howell served as the first white president of a South Carolina NAACP branch in Aiken for six years, bringing an amazing vigor to serving the underserved and fighting for equality in Aiken and the surrounding region; and

Whereas, he served as first vice president of the Aiken County NAACP under Reverend Brendolyn Jenkins‑Boseman’s presidency and many years in various roles under James Gallman’s and Reverend David Walker’s terms as president; and

Whereas, a member of the board of the Margaret J. Weston Medical Center for eight years, he dedicated his time as its chairman; and

Whereas, Mr. Howell volunteered for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life and championed the African American Cultural Arts Center in Aiken; and

Whereas, in Aiken County, he became a mentor and positive influence to many young people, and his quiet philanthropy was felt by many disadvantaged children for whom he would secretly buy coats, clothes, shoes, and socks; and

Whereas, with no children of his own, he adopted one son to his heart, Ronald N. “Peanut” Corley, Jr.; and

Whereas, Philip was a driver for Rev. Nelson B. Rivers III for twenty‑five years, becoming not just friends, but brothers which led Philip to become a member of the Charity Missionary Baptist Church of North Charleston, SC; and

Whereas, Mr. Howell was employed as a pet groomer, the first one in Aiken, and he worked at Veterinary Services for thirty‑one years; and

Whereas, Philip’s whole life was about kindness, helping, and serving. He was always at the head of the pack, fighting for the rights of all people, regardless of race, color, religious affiliation, political, or sexual orientation; and

Whereas, Philip had a hidden gift. He loved music and played beautifully on the piano with no formal training and using no sheet music. His greatest love was Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart classical music; and

Whereas, Philip was a friend to many, loved the Lord Jesus Christ, loved life, and loved serving; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the life and legacy of Philip Howell and for the example of compassion and devotion he set for all who knew him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Philip Howell, past president of the Aiken County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and honor his remarkable commitment to the ideals of equality and serving the underserved.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Philip Howell, past president of Aiken County NAACP.

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