**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR YVETTE FLOWERS FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AND OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN’S ASSOCIATION LOCAL 1422 AND TO WISH HER MUCH CONTINUED SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, born and raised in Charleston, Yvette Flowers attended Wando High School and St. Augustine College in Raleigh, North Carolina. Upon completion, she decided to follow in her father’s footsteps by serving her city and the members of the International Longshoremen’s Association Local 1422; and

Whereas, her father, the late Benjamin Flowers, Sr., served the ILA Local 1422 for forty‑three years. Moreover, her father served as the president for seventeen of those years; and

Whereas, having begun her career with the ILA in December 1989, Ms. Flowers was elected Financial Secretary of Local 1422 in January 2009, making her only the second female to be elected officer in the history of the male‑dominated local; and

Whereas, during her tenure as the Financial Secretary‑Treasurer of Local 1422, in conjunction with the Executive Board members, the local has experienced financial growth and stability. She is now in her fourth term as Financial Secretary‑Treasurer; and

Whereas, in addition to her position as an officer of ILA Local 1422, Ms. Flowers also works for Local 1771 Clerks and Checkers. She became the first woman and first African American to work in Local 1771’s union office; and

Whereas, in 2015, Ms. Flowers was appointed as a member of the Alexander Talmadge‑Edward L. Brown Sr. International Civil, Human & Women’s Rights Committee where she continues to serve today; and

Whereas, having served in numerous leadership roles, Ms. Flowers has served on the ILA Local PAC Committee, the Local 1422 Executive Board, the ILA Joint Safety Committee, and the Port Joint Safety Committee; and

Whereas, with a strong commitment to excellence in her chosen profession and in her community, Ms. Flowers is involved with numerous organizations including the A. Philip Randolph Institute, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionist, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Charleston Central Labor Council. She has also served as a board member for Jenkins Orphanage for Children and is known among the Charleston community as someone who is readily available to assist the community on behalf of the local; and

Whereas, in 2018, Ms. Flowers was one of the honorees of the City of Charleston 2018 Dr. Martin Luther King’s Picture Award for her service and commitment to the community. In October at the 2018 ILA Civil, Human, and Women’s Rights Dinner, she was honored by receiving the ILA’s Women’s Rights Award for her work towards equal pay, equal opportunity, and respect for women. 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 honor Yvette Flowers for her many years of dedicated service and outstanding contributions to the International Longshoremen’s Association Local 1422 and wish her much continued success and fulfillment in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Yvette Flowers.

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