**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE NATIONAL COALITION OF 100 BLACK WOMEN, INC., COLUMBIA (SC) CHAPTER, FOR ITS DEDICATED COMMUNITY SERVICE AND TO RECOGNIZE THE ORGANIZATION AT ITS FIFTH ANNUAL MY SISTER’S KEEPER AWARDS LUNCHEON.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn of the committed community service provided by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Columbia (SC) Chapter, and to hear of the scholarships to be granted at the group’s fifth annual My Sister’s Keeper Awards Luncheon on April 13, 2019; and

Whereas, it was in 1970 in New York City that a handful of black women led by a visionary, Edna Beach, began meeting in their homes to assess problems in the community and opportunities to improve the situation in the wake of the turbulent 1960s. Naming themselves the Coalition of 100 Black Women, the small group of women grew in number and boldly began to reach out to other black women in other states, eventually mobilizing their efforts by 1981 to form the National Coalition of 100 Black Women; and

Whereas, today, the national movement has garnered more than six thousand members in over sixty‑five chapters, representing twenty‑five states and the District of Columbia. The profile of the typical Coalition woman is one who has completed college, holds a professional position, and is integrally involved in the socioeconomic and political matrix of her respective community; and

Whereas, in February 2012, the Columbia (SC) Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., was convened at Columbia’s Benedict College, led by Mary Miller McClellan. The Columbia Chapter continues the national organization’s mission of advocacy and empowerment of women and girls of color by building community partnerships to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS, establishing mentoring programs for young girls at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and at local elementary and middle schools. The chapter has also provided tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships to high school girls to assist them in attending college; and

Whereas, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Columbia (SC) Chapter, will award ten thousand dollars in scholarships to high school girls in the Midlands on Saturday, April 13, 2019, at its fifth annual My Sister’s Keeper Awards Luncheon. The Coalition will also recognize several women leaders from across the State for their commitment to the economic and educational advancement of women and girls of color. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Columbia (SC) Chapter, for its dedicated community service and recognize the organization at its fifth annual My Sister’s Keeper Awards Luncheon.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Columbia (SC) Chapter.

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