**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE CHANDA JEFFERSON ON BEING SELECTED SOUTH CAROLINA’S 2020 TEACHER OF THE YEAR, THE FIRST TEACHER FROM FAIRFIELD COUNTY TO EARN THE HONOR, AND TO EXPRESS DEEP APPRECIATION FOR HER OUTSTANDING DEDICATION TO EDUCATING CHILDREN.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is delighted to learn that Chanda Jefferson was named the state’s 2020 Teacher of the Year during a reception at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center on Wednesday, May 8, 2019; and

Whereas, Ms. Jefferson made history upon winning the award as she is the first teacher from Fairfield County to be named the South Carolina Teacher of the Year; and

Whereas, now in her eighth year of teaching, Ms. Jefferson, who is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, teaches biology to ninth through twelfth graders at Fairfield Central High School; and

Whereas, through tutoring students she realized her love of teaching and changed her career plans from medicine to education. She was a student teacher at Keenan High School and spent some time at C.A. Johnson High School as well; and

Whereas, as a finalist for the award, Ms. Jefferson won ten thousand dollars and will now receive another twenty‑five thousand dollars as Teacher of the Year and a Jostens ring commemorating the award; and

Whereas, she also will have the use of a state‑owned BMW to drive for a year as she serves a one‑year residency at the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement; and

Whereas, Ms. Jefferson’s responsibilities will include being an ambassador to teachers, leading the state’s Teacher Forum, and participating in the Education Policy Fellowship Program, and in Leadership South Carolina, one of the state’s oldest and most respected leadership programs; and

Whereas, in order to encourage South Carolina’s teachers to use their voices, she plans to celebrate the positive impact that these educators make on the lives of students inside the classroom as worthy of recognition on a regular basis; and

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the South Carolina House of Representatives should pause in its deliberations to honor Chanda Jefferson for providing her students with the opportunity to learn and acquire the tools needed to become successful citizens and future leaders of their communities. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Chanda Jefferson on being selected South Carolina’s 2020 Teacher of the Year, the first teacher from Fairfield County to earn the honor, and express deep appreciation for her outstanding dedication to educating children.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Chanda Jefferson.

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