**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF HOLLY SPRINGS SCHOOL IN BELTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO CELEBRATE THIS SECOND OLDEST SURVIVING AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOOL BUILDING.

Whereas, Holly Springs was built in 1890 and deeded to trustees in 1891. Located in Belton, on Holly Springs Road, the school has been warded at the state level to preserve the incredible historic significance; and

Whereas, serving as an institution of learning for the Greenville County community until 1951, Holly Springs represents the determination of upstate African Americans to provide education for their youth, an embodiment of the value of literacy, as being the path to freedom; and

Whereas, the preservation and restoration of Holly Springs allows the school to continue to stand as a symbol of the educational struggle of freed men and women in the nineteenth century as they worked to overcome the lingering effects of anti-literacy laws during the slavery era; and

Whereas, Holly Springs was restored in 2019, led by Pastor James E. and Mrs. Massey, the Holly Springs Baptist Church family, Fork Shoals Historical Society, Greenville County Historic Preservation Commission, Preservation South, and Dr. Anne Peden to name a few; and

Whereas, the restoration was dedicated on October 20, 2019, at Holly Springs Baptist Church to honor the great history and ideals for which the school stands. 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 historical significance of Holly Springs School in Belton, South Carolina, and celebrate this second oldest surviving African American school building.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Pastor James E. Massey and Mrs. Massey.

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