**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE PASSING OF JOHN PEOPLES OF BLAIR AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate was deeply saddened to learn of the death of John Peoples of Blair on February 22, 2019, at the venerable age of seventy‑six; and

Whereas, John Peoples entered this world on February 12, 1943. Having received his early education in the public schools of Fairfield County, the young John graduated from McCrory Liston High School where he was a star basketball and baseball athlete. After graduation, he went on to further his educational studies at Benedict College in Columbia, where he earned his undergraduate degree; and

Whereas, upon graduation, John accepted his first teaching assignment in Manning, guiding his students, instilling discipline, and preparing them for the journey of life; and

Whereas, John’s influence stretched beyond the Midlands. He relocated to Cleveland, Ohio, when he took a job working at the Cleveland Job Corps Centers and had the opportunity to teach and manage several centers while he attended Cleveland State. As John developed as a leader, he went on to become the director at numerous Job Corp Centers throughout the United States; and

Whereas, John contributed greatly to the betterment of the quality of life in Kingston, Jamaica when he established Residential Living Academies there; and

Whereas, answering the call of his country, this patriotic American served our great nation in the United States Army; and

Whereas, a man of faith, John Peoples was a very active member of his church, Gethsemane Baptist Church in Blair. He was ordained a deacon and served faithfully for many years; and

Whereas, in addition to founding Blair Coalition of Churches and the Blair Family Day Parade, John held many positions in and around Fairfield County. He served as the Chairman of the Fairfield Memorial Hospital, served on the board for the Fairfield County Council on Aging, and served as the hearing officer for Fairfield County School District; and

Whereas, in 2016, he was inducted into Fairfield County School District’s Hall of Fame for having made significant contributions to the betterment of the Fairfield County school district, the community, the state, and the nation; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate recognize that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like Mr. John Peoples who use their talents and resources to serve others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, express profound sorrow upon the passing of John Peoples of Blair and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of John Peoples.

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