**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR NATHANIEL FULTON, SR., FOR MORE THAN SIXTY YEARS OF QUARTET MINISTRY IN COLUMBIA AND TO DECLARE JUNE 29, 2019, AS NATHANIEL FULTON, SR., DAY IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Nathaniel Fulton, Sr., has spent more than six decades in musical ministry in Columbia, beginning with The Five Jerusalem Singers with whom he sang for two years; and

Whereas, in 1970, Mr. Fulton sought to manage his first female group, The Caravans, whose original members were vocalists Alfreda Foster Crum, Willann Dantzler Thorpe, the late Emily Gantt, Bonnie Williams Robinson, the late Eartha Fanning Pringle, and a few years later, Reverend Willie Pringle; and

Whereas, after the loss of several founding members, vocalists Veronica Kay Golston, Geneva Jones McIntosh, JoAnne Jones, and Dianne Jones Ladson joined the two remaining original members, Alfreda Foster Crum and Bonnie Williams Robinson, and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Caravans quartet ministry ascended. To bolster the group’s success, he added Lillian Gibson as an assistant manager, and Oscar Boyd and Randy and Silas Hayes were the group’s musicians; and

Whereas, Mr. Fulton managed this youthful musical group, a mixture of teenagers and young adults, for approximately seven years during which time these individuals also attended college, married, and became parents, all contributing to their ultimate scattering; and

Whereas, in 1977, he became the manager of the Original Singing Angels with vocalists the late Eva Smith, Edna Boyd, Celia Johnson Nesbitt, Tama Tyler Hodge, and the late Pamela Jones, as well as musicians the late Clarence Tyler, Sr., Clarence Tyler, Jr., and Lee Turner. The group was later joined by Cathy Moyd Reed; and

Whereas, with the Original Singing Angels, Mr. Fulton arranged to produce the first recording under his management, which included familiar inspirational songs as “Praying Time” and “Further On Up the Road.” As some of the Angels left the group, other vocalists and musicians joined, and their music continued to bless many; and

Whereas, his musical groups performed throughout South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia and in Washington, D. C., and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mr. Fulton is a true pioneering manager of quartet music, and he and others were able to take this Gospel music to another level for people everywhere to enjoy; and

Whereas, originally from Kingstree, he is a member of Progressive Church of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in Columbia. He and his beloved wife, Helen Fulton, have been married for sixty‑five years, and they have four sons, Jerome, Nathaniel “Rick”, Jr., Tyrone, and Craig; six grandchildren; and four great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, at the age of eighty‑seven, Mr. Fulton has lived a life of commitment to everything he has done. In addition to more than six decades in the music industry, he was the owner of Fulton Remodeling Company for over fifty years, and he has lived in Columbia for over seventy‑five years; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate deeply appreciates the long career that Nathaniel Fulton has experienced in managing Gospel quartet musical groups in Columbia and the rich heritage in Gospel music he has given to the Palmetto State and beyond. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Nathaniel Fulton, Sr., for more than sixty years of quartet ministry in Columbia and declare June 29, 2019, as Nathaniel Fulton, Sr., Day in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Nathaniel Fulton, Sr.

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