**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE PASSING OF JOE LEE GORDON OF YORK COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LARGE AND LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were saddened to learn of the death of Joe Lee Gordon at the age of eighty‑two on Wednesday, February 16, 2022; and

Whereas, born in Monroe, North Carolina, on July 17, 1939, he was the son of the late Charlie Lee and Mattie Delmar Chapman Gordon. He attended the public schools in Monroe, where he graduated from from Walter Bickett High School; and

Whereas, Mr. Gordon furthered his education at Wingate College and East Carolina University and earned graduate degrees from the University of South Carolina and Winthrop University; and

Whereas, he began his lifelong professional career as an educator in Hamlett, North Carolina, and he taught in Columbia. When he began serving as the assistant principal of Clover High School in 1971, he and his wife fell in love with the community. He later served the Clover School District as the principal of Clover High School and as assistant superintendent of Clover Schools until his retirement in 1994; and

Whereas, devoted to his community, he continued to offer his broad educational expertise by serving on the Clover School District Board of Trustees from November 1998 until his death, nearly a quarter of a century later. He served as vice chairman of the board and worked on multiple projects during the past twenty‑four years, including the building and opening of Crowders Creek Elementary School, Larne Elementary School, Oakridge Middle School, Oakridge Elementary School, the new Clover Middle School, and the Clover School District Community YMCA; and

Whereas, his outstanding commitment and service to the Clover School Board of Trustees were recognized after twenty years in 2018 by the South Carolina School Board Association; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife of fifty‑three years, Kay Black Gordon, he reared three fine children ‑ Jennifer Kay Gordon Johnson, Sherer Lee Gordon Hopkins, and John Joseph Gordon. His children blessed him with the affection of six grandchildren ‑ McKenna Kathleen Johnson, Mary Grace Hopkins, Noah Lee Hopkins, Mattie Clare Johnson, Aila Kay Gordon, and Lee Alexander Gordon; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the life and legacy of Joe Gordon and for the example of service and excellence he set for all who knew him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Joe Lee Gordon of York County and extend their deepest sympathy to his large and loving family and his many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Joe Lee Gordon.

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