**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DEION M. JAMISON, A NINTH AND TENTH GRADE ENGLISH TEACHER AT LEGACY EARLY COLLEGE IN GREENVILLE, AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM UPON BEING NAMED THE 2023 SOUTH CAROLINA TEACHER OF THE YEAR.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the South Carolina Senate should pause in its deliberations to congratulate Deion Jamison for being named the South Carolina Teacher of the Year for 2023, the first Black male and charter schoolteacher to receive this honor; and

Whereas, Mr. Jamison prepared to fulfill his childhood interest in becoming a teacher by earning a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Clemson University in 2017 and a master’s degree in education from Johns Hopkins University in 2021; and

Whereas, interest in that career was solidified after he recognized the disparities in education between school districts both in South Carolina and in the nation. As a Bill & Melinda Gates Millennium Scholar and a product of Orangeburg County Schools, his decision was further influenced to teach. He ascribes to the words of Jesus, “To whom much is given, much is required”; and

Whereas, Mr. Jamison’s work has been recognized locally, regionally, and nationally from Teach for America and the National Council of Teachers of English for teaching his students skills, such as collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving, to address the world’s most pressing issues; and

Whereas, he teaches ninth and tenth grade English and language arts at Legacy Early College in Greenville, a charter school within the South Carolina Public Charter School District, where he has created inclusive spaces for culturally and linguistically diverse students to thrive; and

Whereas, Mr. Jamison believes in learning who his students and their families are before evaluating standards, objectives, and assessments; and

Whereas, his greatest strength in teaching is recognizing and honoring the humanity and genius his students bring to the classroom, and he aims to provide his students with the agency to forge their own pathway and to help others along the way; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is grateful for the commitment of talented educators like Deion Jamison, who devote themselves to the shaping of young minds in our great State, and the members wish him continued success in and out of the classroom. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Deion M. Jamison, a ninth and tenth grade English teacher at Legacy Early College in Greenville, and congratulate him upon being named the 2023 South Carolina Teacher of the Year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Deion M. Jamison.

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