**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SONJA PINCKNEY RHODES OF GOOSE CREEK FOR HER MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CHARLESTON AREA AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES AS SHE CONTINUES TO SERVE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Whereas, raised in the West Ashley area by her loving parents, Johnny and Mary Pinckney, native Charlestonian Sonja Pinckney Rhodes of Goose Creek was born the second of three children and the oldest daughter. Sonja attended the public schools of Charleston County and, in preparation for her career, earned her bachelor’s degree in business management with a minor in human resources and a Master of Business Administration with a focus on human resource management; and

Whereas, Sonja is the proud mother of two sons, Jon Michael Pinckney, Sr., and Andre Christopher Rhodes. She also delights in her lovely daughter‑in‑law, Markita Flemons Pinckney, and in three beautiful grandchildren, whom she adores, Jon Michael, Jr., Ari Samiya, and Nia Malika Pinckney; and

Whereas, since May 2000, this woman of faith has been an active member of Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, where she uses her gifts and talents to lead, inspire, and encourage. She serves as advisor to both the Young Adult Ministry and Baptist Young Women; she serves as a Sunday School teacher, co‑facilitates the eLife Ministry, and serves as a member of the Upper Room Prayer Ministry; and she is currently a minister in training; and

Whereas, in June 2020, Sonja retired from the Medical University of South Carolina with nearly three decades of service, a life change that has allowed her to focus on her purpose even more. She is an accomplished author with a national and international number‑one best‑selling book, *From Pain to Purpose: A Bridge Over Troubled Waters*. She is also the visionary author of *Greater Works: A Compilation of Prayers for Everyday Life*. In addition, Sonja is the founder and CEO of JMPinckney Publishing Company, LLC, a thriving real estate agent for Carolina Elite Realty, an official volunteer advocate and speaker for My Sister’s House, and a journalist for *The Charleston Chronicle* newspaper; and

Whereas, Sonja has been able to accomplish many things that at periods of time in her life seemed unattainable. Her goal is to help others heal so they can become all God has called them to be by moving from their pain to their purpose; and

Whereas, the House, grateful for Sonja Pinckney Rhodes’ decades of faithfulness in serving the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in commending her for her contributions to this great State, especially in the Charleston area. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Sonja Pinckney Rhodes of Goose Creek for her many years of outstanding service to the people of the Charleston area and extend best wishes as she continues to serve in the years ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Sonja Pinckney Rhodes.

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