**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO REMEMBER ARNETTA GLADDEN MACKEY, MEMBER OF THE WINTHROP UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 1967, AND TO HONOR HER FOR BEING SELECTED TO RECEIVE THE WINTHROP UNIVERSITY ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD AS THE UNIVERSITY CELEBRATED FIFTY YEARS OF RACIAL INTEGRATION.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Arnetta Gladden Mackey, has been honored by Winthrop University with the Alumni Distinguished Service Award; and

Whereas, the Alumni Distinguished Service Award recognizes Winthrop alumni who significantly contribute to the quality of life in their community, the development of values and morals within others, and who serve as outstanding citizens. Arnetta Gladden Mackey is one of four alumnae who were the 2017 recipients of this award; and

Whereas, Arnetta, a native of Rock Hill, was one of two African American undergraduate students to enroll at Winthrop University for classes beginning in the fall of 1964. Having graduated from Emmett Scott High School, she sought to earn her Bachelor of Arts degree in biology. At the same time, Delores Johnson of Columbia had also been admitted to earn an undergraduate degree, and the two became roommates. Arnetta and Delores were joined that fall by graduate student Cynthia Plair Roddey, and in the spring by transfer student Sue Frances Meriwether, as the first African American students admitted for classes during the 1964 school year; and

Whereas, following her graduation in 1967, Mackey gave thirty years of dedicated labor and service as a chemical engineer and plant manager at Hoescht Celanese before her retirement. Also known as Celanese Corporation, her employer was a Fortune 500 global technology and specialty materials company; and

Whereas, active in the York County community, Mackey was a member of the Holy Jerusalem Deliverance Center. She also volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, the Children’s Attention Home and Senior Citizens Tax Service, and was a former board member of the Museum of York County; and

Whereas, Arnetta Gladden Mackey passed on Saturday, August 8, 2009. She had been blessed with a loving husband, W. Eugene Mackey, and two daughters, Nicole Arvetta Young and LaBrina Shante Mackey. She was beloved by both her family and her community; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the tremendous burden Arnetta Gladden Mackey undertook in becoming one of the first African American students to enroll at Winthrop University to pursue an undergraduate degree during an uncertain period of racial integration in both South Carolina and the Nation’s public school system. Her bravery and sacrifice have contributed in immeasurable ways to today’s academic environment and serve to inspire all those who follow in her footsteps. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, remember Arnetta Gladden Mackey, member of the Winthrop University Class of 1967, and honor her for being selected to receive the Winthrop University Alumni Distinguished Service Award as the university celebrated fifty years of racial integration.

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