**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE SAMUEL L. HART ON THE GRAND OCCASION OF HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY, TO RECOGNIZE HIS MANY ACHIEVEMENTS, AND TO WISH HIM A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Samuel L. Hart celebrated his ninetieth birthday on December 1, 2020; and

Whereas, Mr. Hart currently serves as the representative for District Seven on the city council for the City of North Charleston. He was originally elected to that position in 1992, and has served his community in that post for nearly three decades;

Whereas, Mr. Hart is a graduate of Claflin University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in science magna cum laude. He later went on to receive a master’s degree from Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia. While serving on city council, Mr. Hart has continually worked to better his education, obtaining the Diamond Cum Laude from the National League of Cities University; and

Whereas, prior to serving on city council, Mr. Hart worked in the field of education. He taught science and physical education, while also coaching football, basketball, baseball, track, and gymnastics. After spending sixteen years as an educator, his career moved towards administration, and he became the principal of Jenkins Hill Elementary and Middle School in Harleyville. Following sixteen dedicated years as an administrator, Mr. Hart retired and returned to his home in North Charleston. Raised in Liberty Hill, and now surrounded once again by his family, he found himself becoming involved in local politics; and

Whereas, Mr. Hart served four years as president of the Liberty Hill Improvement Council. Following that, he attempted, unsuccessfully, to run for city council before achieving the feat during election season four years later. During his tenure on city council, Mr. Hart became the first African American Mayor Pro Tem in the history of North Charleston. He also devoted a significant amount of time advocating for improvements in the community including affordable housing, new senior centers, new community centers, stormwater improvements, new and upgraded playgrounds, installation of new fire hydrants, citywide beautification, installation of new sidewalks, improved street lighting, community wayfinding, installation of traffic calming devices, and the installation of a Vietnam memorial monument; and

Whereas, along with his time spent as an educator, administrator, politician, and city council member, Mr. Hart has belonged to many organizations. Among those organizations are National League of Cities, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Masons, Chairman of Charity Missionary Baptist Church, Member of the Coalition for Voter Participation, and Commander of the American Legion Post 271 in North Charleston; and

Whereas, Mr. Hart is a dedicated member and advocate for his community. He believes that municipal government works best when it works in partnership with the people it serves, and that what happens in one community affects all communities. The ties that bind us and working together can make all the difference; and

Whereas, birthdays provide a special time and opportunity to celebrate and honor those of great importance in our lives. It is a great pleasure for the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives to join with his family, his friends, and his community to recognize Samuel L. Hart on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday and to wish him an exceptional birthday celebration. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Samuel L. Hart on the grand occasion of his ninetieth birthday, recognize his many achievements, and wish him a joyous birthday celebration.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Samuel L. Hart.

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