**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS PROFOUND SORROW UPON THE PASSING OF MRS. FANNIE WHITE WATSON, TO CELEBRATE HER LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. Fannie White Watson on Sunday, April 11, 2021, at the venerable age of eighty‑nine; and

Whereas, born in Lee County, Mrs. Watson was the daughter of the late Marion Napier White and Lila Lee Davis White. She graduated from Ashwood High School before she continued on to Coker College. Once there she studied hard, invested herself in college life, lettered as a field hockey player, and finally graduated in 1952 with a degree in business; and

Whereas, upon her graduation from college she began her career as a diligent and dedicated employee for the State. She spent some time employed as a teacher at Midway and Bishopville High Schools, and she devoted herself as a forty‑year employee for the Lee County Department of Social Services. Talented, hardworking, and dependable, she spent the last twenty‑three years of her career as the County Director for the Lee County Department of Social Services, during which time Lee County was one of the first counties in the State to begin the Food Stamp Program; and

Whereas, honest and genuine, Mrs. Watson loved her community within Lee County and found great joy in helping those who required aid. Throughout her life she was recognized numerous times for her actions and was awarded justly for her community service; and

Whereas, willing to give generously of her time, talents, and service, Mrs. Watson was a charter member of the Lee County Chapter of the South Carolina Employees Association, and served for several years as its president. She also served for many years with the Lee County Disaster Preparedness Agency, tackling issues that affected Lee County like Hurricane Hugo; and

Whereas, a great lover of history, she was an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and she spent many hours doing genealogy research of her family; and

Whereas, retirement gave her much more time for the enjoyment of hobbies and time with family. She enjoyed painting, traveling, and visiting family members. She loved and cherished the time she could be with her children, her grandchildren, and most especially her great‑granddaughter. The stories she would tell of her childhood and family history will be remembered fondly in the memories of those who were close to her like cherished gifts; and

Whereas, preceded in death by her husband, Thompson J. Watson; her brother, D. A. White; and her sister, Marion White Messier; she leaves to cherish her memory her sons, Tom “Bubba” Watson and Mark Watson; her daughter, Lila Shirley; her grandchildren, T.J. Watson III, Lauren Fredricks, Victoria Watson, Jesse Watson, and Aubrey Watson; her great‑granddaughter, Ella Rose Watson; and a host of other family and friends. She will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express profound sorrow upon the passing of Mrs. Fannie White Watson, celebrate her life and achievements, and extend the deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Mrs. Fannie White Watson.

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