**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF HELEN YOUNG BELTON OF BLYTHEWOOD, TO CELEBRATE HER LIFE, 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 by the passing of Helen Young Belton of Blythewood on March 23, 2022, at the age of sixty‑nine; and

Whereas, born in Furman on September 2, 1952, Helen Young Belton came into this world the daughter of Lucious and Lillie Rose Gant Young. The young Helen attended the public schools of Hampton County and reigned as Miss Estill. After high school graduation, she attended Morris College in Sumter, where she received a degree in speech pathology. In 1972, she was inducted into the Zeta Upsilon Chapter of Sigma Alpha Eta, the National Honor Society for speech‑language pathology and audiology. Helen continued her education at South Carolina State University, where she received a master’s degree; and

Whereas, she taught in the Florence County School District for five years after graduating from South Carolina State University. After leaving the classroom, she was employed by Richland County for thirty‑three years with the North Main Street Public Library, first as a librarian and later as manager; and

Whereas, in her leisure time, Helen loved to sing, read, and write poetry; and

Whereas, formerly, this woman of faith was a member of Bible Light Holiness Church in Ridgeway, where she served on the Witness Board. In 1991, however, she and her husband, Elder Melvin Belton, started a branch of Bible Light Holiness Church in Rock Hill, where she sang in the choir and served as president of the Senior Choir; and

Whereas, Helen Belton leaves to cherish her memory her husband, Elder Melvin Belton; one son, Jason Belton (Kashia); two daughters, Charity Belton (Datavious Hemphill) and Latoya Cunningham; eight grandchildren, Kamiyah Hemphill, Jason Belton, Jr., Khalil Belton, Chanel Phillips, Markel Belton, Bryson Belton, Alexis Tucker, and Antwan Johnson; and a host of other family members and friends. She will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Helen Young Belton of Blythewood, celebrate her life, and extend the deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Elder Melvin Belton for the family.

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