**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR DR. ADA D. STEWART OF RICHLAND COUNTY AS THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS.

Whereas, a board‑certified family physician, Dr. Ada D. Stewart practices at the Eau Claire Cooperative Health Centers in Columbia, where she serves as lead provider and as an HIV specialist; and

Whereas, born in Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Stewart earned her bachelor’s degree in pharmacy from Ohio Northern University and her medical degree at the University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences, formerly the Medical College of Ohio. She completed her family medicine residency training in the Palmetto State at Palmetto Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia, and has dedicated her career to ensuring that low‑income and uninsured families have access to high‑quality healthcare; and

Whereas, beginning her career as a National Health Service Corps scholar, Dr. Stewart cared for patients in rural South Carolina and continues to work with underserved communities in both rural and urban settings; and

Whereas, following the events of September 11, 2001, Dr. Stewart felt drawn to serve her county and enlisted in the United States Army Reserve, where she currently holds the rank of colonel; and

Whereas, a preceptor for medical students, residents, and nurse practitioners, Dr. Stewart has received numerous awards, including the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine; and

Whereas, Dr. Stewart is certified in HIV care and is a member of the American Academy of HIV medicine. In 2017, she was recognized for her work in hepatitis C treatment and prevention by the South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council. In 2019, she was appointed by Secretary Alex Azar of the United States Department of Health and Human Services to serve on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS; and

Whereas, dedicated to serving her profession, Dr. Stewart is a member of the American Medical Association, the Academy of Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine, the National Medical Association, and the American Women’s Medical Association; and

Whereas, an active member of the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians, a constituent chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), Dr. Stewart has served as its board chair, commission chair, and president. Dr. Stewart also served as the new physician delegate to the AAFP Congress of Delegates in 2004, and was a convener for the AAFP National Conference of Special Constituencies in 2010. A member of the AAFP Commission on Health of the Public and Science, she has served as a past chair of the commission’s Tobacco Prevention and Control Advisory Committee; and

Whereas, in the fall of 2016, Dr. Stewart was elected to the AAFP Board of Directors and became its president‑elect in 2019. In 2020, she became the first African American woman to lead the largest medical society in the United States devoted solely to primary care, representing over 133,500 physicians and medical students; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are deeply grateful for the exceptional medical care that Dr. Ada Stewart has provided to the citizens of this State and for her outstanding leadership on both the State and national levels, and the members wish her continued success in her endeavors. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate and honor Dr. Ada D. Stewart of Richland County as the first African American woman to serve as president of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Ada D. Stewart.

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