**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR CARRIE LENORA ROBINSON LAWRENCE OF FLORENCE COUNTY AND TO CONGRATULATE HER AS SHE CELEBRATES SEVENTY‑FIVE REMARKABLE YEARS AS A MEMBER OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA, INCORPORATED.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Carrie Lenora Robinson Lawrence is marking three quarters of a century as a dedicated member of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA), International, the nation’s first sorority established by African‑American women; and

Whereas, born in Florence on April 6, 1920, she grew up in East Florence and attended then East Side Elementary School, which became Holmes and now Theodore Lester Elementary, and she graduated in 1938 from State High School, which became Wilson High School; and

Whereas, during the Great Depression of 1929, young Carrie witnessed the decline in the number of jobs available, the rationing of food through food stamps, and crowded living spaces among families who had lost their homes; and

Whereas, she entered South Carolina State College, now a university, the year before the Great Depression ended in 1939, but every month, her father faithfully sent the money for her tuition; and

Whereas, Mrs. Lawrence graduated from South Carolina State College in 1942 and taught for thirty‑nine years at Nesmith, Tans Bay, and Savannah Grove, retiring from the latter; and

Whereas, she was married first to the late George Alberts and then to the late Eugene Lawrence; and

Whereas, a lifetime member and instrumental figure of Cumberland United Methodist Church, Mrs. Lawrence has served as the chairperson of Christian Education, as well as the “We Care We Share Ministry.” She is a member of the Sunday school; the United Methodist Women, Interest Area #5; and Choir #1, now James H. Spears, Jr., Senior Choir; and

Whereas, she has served Cumberland United Methodist Church faithfully under the leadership of nineteen pastors, including the current pastor, Reverend Anthony Hodge; and

Whereas, still somewhat active, able to drive her car and coordinate her own wardrobe beautifully, Mrs. Lawrence has been a member of AKA for seventy‑five years, which has a mission of lifelong personal and professional development of each of its members and of galvanizing its members into an organization of respected power and influence at the forefront of effective advocacy and social change for equality and equity for all people nationally and internationally. She is looking forward with keen anticipation to attending the 2016 AKA convention; and

Whereas, loved and respected by her family, friends, and church family, she still enjoys cooking, reading, sewing, writing, and reciting her poems; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for Carrie Lawrence’s life of service and her remarkable legacy, and the members commend her for seventy‑five years of devoted membership in Alpha Kappa Alpha, Incorporated. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Carrie Lenora Robinson Lawrence of Florence County and congratulate her as she celebrates seventy‑five remarkable years as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Incorporated.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Carrie Lenora Robinson Lawrence.

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