**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MARY LEE PROCTOR FREEMAN OF SUMTER COUNTY FOR HER WORK AS HISTORIAN OF BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH‑OSWEGO, AND TO COMMEND HER FOR MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE IN FAITHFULLY RECOUNTING THE CHRONICLES AND MEMOIRS OF HER CHURCH MEMBERS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives take great pleasure in acknowledging the historical legacy of the work of Mary Lee Proctor Freeman of Sumter County; and

Whereas, Mary Lee Proctor was born in 1919 to Hallie Rochelle Brown Proctor and Walter Lee Proctor, Sr.; and

Whereas, in 1939 she married her beloved Eugene Brown “Buck” Freeman, and together they settled in Oswego. They raised one fine daughter, Beth, who, with her devoted husband Bruce, has two children Michael and Melanie. Mary Lee has been blessed with four adoring great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, in 1941 at the beginning of World War II, Mary Lee Freeman went to work as a secretary at Shaw Air Force Base, and she remained primarily a civil service employee until 1984; and

Whereas, a lifelong and faithful member of Bethel United Methodist Church‑Oswego, she began her significant work as historian in 1988, keeping careful, complete records of all that happened in the years until 2000; and

Whereas, as secretary of the Alice Andrews Bible Class, she wrote biographies of all members when they became eighty years old, which were compiled in booklets entitled *The Golden Years*; and

Whereas, she further serves her community as a charter member of the Sumter County Genealogical Society and the Sumter County Alzheimer’s Association; and

Whereas, Mary Lee Freeman helped to survey the cemeteries of Sumter, Lee, and Clarendon Counties and compiled the first record of the cemetery at Bethel United Methodist Church‑Oswego; her last work was a complete history of the Du We Go Grange from 1939 to 2008; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to commend the tireless efforts of Mary Lee Proctor Freeman to preserve personal and family histories for the posterity of Sumter County and the Palmetto State. 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 Mary Lee Proctor Freeman of Sumter County for her work as historian of Bethel United Methodist Church‑Oswego, and commend her for many years of dedicated service in faithfully recounting the chronicles and memoirs of her church members.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mary Lee Proctor Freeman and her family.

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