**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR VICKI BOURUS UPON HER RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT.

Whereas, Vicki Bourus will retire at the end of June 2011 after twelve years as Director of the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; and

Whereas, an unrelenting advocate against domestic violence, Vicki grew through the national women’s movement to become an effective advocate for Palmetto State women and the face of domestic violence victims; and

Whereas, with a bachelor’s degree from the University of Georgia and a master’s degree in social work from the University of South Carolina, she has worked extensively with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse as a licensed social worker; and

Whereas, since 1986, Ms. Bourus has been providing services and advocating for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and has provided law enforcement officers, medical and legal professionals, and social workers with consultation and training in the identification, assessment, and treatment of victims of both sexual and domestic violence and other related issues; and

Whereas, her work with the S.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault included coordinating resources and lobbying for laws of particular concern to women. The coalition works with twenty-three organizations and provides training concerning violence against women; and

Whereas, the number of shelters for battered women and children rose from 12 to 19 during the years Vicki led the coalition; and

Whereas, she is an invaluable asset to South Carolina and has had a dramatic impact on thousands of lives; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate wishes to thank Vicki Bourus for her dedicated and hard work with the Criminal Domestic Violence Study Committee and the South Carolina Legislature to raise awareness of domestic violence in South Carolina; and

Whereas, it is proper for the members of the Senate to pause in their deliberations to remember the contributions of Vicki Bourus, as hope for battered women and children in South Carolina is better because of her efforts. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, honor Vicki Bourus upon her retirement as Director of the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Vicki Bourus.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑