**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATH OF RUTH WRIGHT RUCKER OF LANCASTER AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, deeply saddened at the news, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives have learned of the death of Ruth Wright Rucker of Lancaster on February 3, 2013, at the venerable age of ninety‑seven; and

Whereas, born April 15, 1915, in Abbeville, Ruth Wright Rucker was adopted and raised by her great‑aunt and great‑uncle, Margaret and John Wright. She was the second of eleven children born to Mrs. Emma Lomax Lowe; and

Whereas, the young Ruth attended public schools in Abbeville and Atlanta, Georgia, graduating from Booker T. Washington High School and later attending Morris Brown College in Atlanta. While there, she was a model for Cannolene hair products. She received her bachelor’s degree from Allen University in Columbia; and

Whereas, having been united in holy matrimony to Aaron Riley Rucker, she proved a devoted wife and mother and worked with her husband to improve the educational system in Lancaster. In gratitude, the community named A.R. Rucker Middle School in the couple’s honor; and

Whereas, to their joy, the Ruckers were blessed with four children; and

Whereas, Mrs. Rucker was dearly loved by her family, as well as the many students she taught at J.J. Clinton Elementary School in Lancaster. Compassionate and generous, she was always willing to help anyone in need and extended her humanitarian efforts toward many organizations and charities. In addition, she was an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Mount Zion AME Church; and

Whereas, she leaves to cherish her memory a son, Dr. Douglas Aaron Rucker; two daughters, Margaret Rucker Sheftall and Patricia Rucker Pangburn (one daughter, Ruth Aaronnette Rucker Allen, preceded her in death); thirteen grandchildren and three step grandchildren; twenty‑one great‑grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends. She will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. 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 death of Ruth Wright Rucker of Lancaster and extend the deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Douglas Aaron Rucker for the family.

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