**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE HONORABLE JOHN W. MATTHEWS, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SENATOR FOR BERKELEY, CALHOUN, COLLETON, DORCHESTER, AND ORANGEBURG COUNTIES.

Whereas, born April 21, 1940, in Bowman, John W. Matthews was first elected to the South Carolina Legislature as a Democrat in 1975. Since then, he has led the fight for economic development, job creation, and education in the State of South Carolina. He represents District 39, which includes Berkeley, Calhoun, Colleton, Dorchester, and Orangeburg counties; and

Whereas, John Matthews served as a member of the House of Representatives (1975‑1984) before being elected to the state Senate in 1985. He previously had served as a teacher and administrator in the public school system and as a small‑business owner; and

Whereas, as a result of his distinguished leadership and service, Senator Matthews has received numerous awards and honors. He has been named Orangeburg County Democrat of the Year, Minority Business Advocate of the Year, and South Carolina Primary Health Care Legislator of the Year. He is a Distinguished Alumni Award recipient of his alma mater, South Carolina State University. Further, he is a member of the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame and a former chairman of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus. He also is a member of the Claflin University Capital Campaign Steering Committee; and

Whereas, in 2004, Orangeburg County Council designated more than five hundred acres located at the South East Quadrant of U.S. 301‑176 Highway in Orangeburg County as the John W. Matthews Industrial Park. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the life and achievements of the Honorable John W. Matthews, South Carolina state senator for Berkeley, Calhoun, Colleton, Dorchester, and Orangeburg counties.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable John W. Matthews.

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