**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 321 IN HAMPTON COUNTY FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH HOPEWELL ROAD TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH ZEIGLER STREET “VIRGIN JOHNSON, SR. HIGHWAY” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS PORTION OF HIGHWAY CONTAINING THESE WORDS.

Whereas, a teacher, leader, war hero, and a community advocate, Virgin Johnson, Sr., was born in Allendale County on May 17, 1930, to the late HaDease (Porona) and Nettie Duncan Johnson. He departed this life on January 27, 2015, leaving behind a legacy as rich as the life he lived; and

Whereas, educated at Denmark Technical College and South Carolina State University, Mr. Johnson was a carpenter and an educator in the Hampton County Public School System, where he taught for thirty‑three years; and

Whereas, answering the call to serve his country, Mr. Johnson left high school to enlist in the United States Army. He fought in the Korean War where he earned a Purple Heart on March 5, 1951. He retired as a Master Sergeant from the United States Army and the National Guard; and

Whereas, returning home from the war, Mr. Johnson completed his education and, in 1962, began teaching carpentry, bricklaying, and cement finishing at Estill Training School and North District Training School. Following an unsuccessful run for Hampton County Council in the 1960s, Mr. Johnson went on to serve as a municipal judge of Estill and Gifford, a magistrate judge, and in 2000, as a member of Hampton County Council; and

Whereas, Mr. Johnson was a local civil rights leader and an advocate for senior citizens. He was a “faithful servant” in his service at Goodwill Baptist Church in Estill for more than sixty years. He later joined Revelation Ministries where he served until his health declined; and

Whereas, Mr. Johnson was married to the love of his life, Mary Ann Washington Johnson, for more than six decades. To this union was born: Reverend Virgin Johnson, Jr., Clayton Johnson, Virgil Johnson, and Anna Dora Johnson Dobson, who preceded him in death; and

Whereas, a faithful servant to God, family, and community, it is fitting and proper that we honor Mr. Virgin Johnson, Sr., for his tireless devotion by naming a portion of United States Highway 321 in Hampton County in his memory. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly request the Department of Transportation name the portion of United States Highway 321 in Hampton County from its intersection with Hopewell Road to its intersection with Zeigler Street “Virgin Johnson, Sr. Highway” and erect appropriate markers or signs along this portion of highway containing these words.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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