**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**S. 536**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Senate Resolution

Sponsors: Senator Allen

Document Path: LC-0207HDB-RM25.docx

Introduced in the Senate on April 2, 2025

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Melva Jean Gilliam Bruton

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

4/2/2025 Senate Introduced and adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 6](h:\sj\20250402.docx))

4/4/2025 Scrivener's error corrected

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=536&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[04/02/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/536_20250402.docx)

[04/04/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/536_20250404.docx)

A senate RESOLUTION

TO HONOR AND CONGRATULATE MELVA Jean gilliam BRUTON OF LYMAN ON HER RECENT ELECTION AS INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF MINISTERS’ WIVES AND MINISTERS’ WIDOWS, INC.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that Melva Jean Gilliam Bruton of Lyman was recently elected international vice president at large of the International Alliance of Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows Inc. (IAMWMW); and

Whereas, the seventh child of ten children, Melva Bruton has been married for fifty‑three years to the Reverend Jimmie L. Bruton, pastor of New Faith Baptist Church in Lyman. In pastoral ministry for nearly forty years, she has been blessed with two children, four grandchildren, and five great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, this committed Christian lady, who serves alongside her husband at New Faith Baptist, is an Adult Class Sunday School teacher, as well as writer and coordinator of the church’s Vacation Bible School programs, for which she develops, designs, and writes all original material and literature for all classes; and

Whereas, her Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows (MWMW) affiliations include service as past local president of the Greenville and Vicinity Interdenominational MWMW (1995‑1999). She presently serves on the President’s Council of the Greenville Ministers’ Wives and Widows and various committees. Further, for sixteen years she served on the International Association of MWMW Finance Team as asset recovery specialist. In this position, she recovered over twenty thousand dollars in organizational assets; and

Whereas, among other offices past and present, she has held the post of state president of the South Carolina Association of Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows (2012‑2016) and also has served as first vice president, secretary, and dean of education in the state association. Prior to her election as vice president at large of the international organization, she served as Southeast regional financial secretary (2000‑2004), and she is the immediate past Southeast regional vice president (2018‑2022); and

Whereas, Mrs. Bruton retired in 2015 from BI‑LO/Southeastern Grocer Corporation after more than forty‑five years of service and was certified in customer service management and asset recovery; and

Whereas, in preparation for her career, the young Melva completed her studies at Cecil’s Business College and earned certificates through Furman University, Equifax Accounts Receivable Services, and other organizations. She also earned a Bible certificate from Dallas Theological Seminary (2020) and completed further studies; and

Whereas, in recognition of her spirit of excellence and dedicated service, Melva Bruton has received various honors, among them the 2005 South Carolina Ministers’ Wife of the Year award; 2005 Shining Star Award from Dean Cohagan, CEO of BI‑LO/Bruno LLC; and 2016 South Carolina Senate Outstanding Community Service Award. In 2017, she was inducted into the International Association of MWMW Gallery of Fame, and in 2023 she was a graduate in the First Cohort of the International Leadership Academy; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate appreciates the outstanding service that the IAMWMW provides to the citizens of this great State and beyond, and the members take great pleasure in recognizing Melva Bruton of Lyman as this fine organization’s new international vice president at large. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor and congratulate Melva Jean Gilliam Bruton of Lyman on her recent election as international vice president at large of the International Alliance of Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows Inc.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Melva Bruton.

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