**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 78 IN ORANGEBURG COUNTY FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 21 IN THE TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE TO THE ORANGEBURG/DORCHESTER COUNTY LINE “BETTY HENDERSON HIGHWAY” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS LOCATION CONTAINING THIS DESIGNATION.

Whereas, born January 1, 1947 in Branchville to the late Nuncie and Sallie Williams, Mrs. Betty W. Henderson was the youngest of ten children. Educated in the public schools of Orangeburg County and New York City, she went on to complete International Association of Assessing Officials (IAOO) coursework at The Citadel and the University of South Carolina and business courses at Orangeburg‑Calhoun Technical College; and

Whereas, prior to retiring in 2018, Mrs. Henderson spent twenty‑eight years as tax assessor of Orangeburg County. She became the first African American female assessor in the State of South Carolina and the only African American to be inducted into the South Carolina Association of Assessing Officials Hall of Fame. She served as the vice president of the executive board of directors of the South Carolina Association of Assessing Officials; and

Whereas, Mrs. Henderson was instrumental in the founding and served as co‑chair of the Orangeburg County‑Wide Concerned Citizens organization, which worked to get African Americans registered to vote and encouraged them to seek elected office; and

Whereas, for twenty years, Mrs. Henderson has worked tirelessly as the chair of the Orangeburg County Democratic Party. The party issued four thousand tickets for South Carolinians to meet then-Senator Barack Obama during his presidential bid. Mrs. Henderson has attended five presidential inaugurations and had the pleasure of meeting and hosting several presidential candidates. She has served as campaign manager for many Democratic candidates. At the Orangeburg County Democratic Convention in 2018, she was lauded for her work and unanimously named chair emerita; and

Whereas, the first African American since reconstruction to be elected to the Branchville Town Council, Mrs. Henderson also served as Mayor Pro Tem. She is a founding member of the Orangeburg County Family Health Center and serves on the regional adult literacy board, the Regional Medical Center board, and the Orangeburg County Department of Social Services board. She is a member of the NAACP and the LaCharm Club and is the former queen of the National Order of the Eastern Star; and

Whereas, a member of Canaan Baptist Church in Branchville, she chairs the budget and hospitality committees. She is the proud mother of three children and the proud grandmother of four; and

Whereas, it would be fitting and proper to pay tribute to this daughter of South Carolina by naming a portion of road in the State in her honor. Now, therefore,

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

That members of the General Assembly request that the Department of Transportation name the portion of United States Highway 78 in Orangeburg County from its intersection with United States Highway 21 in the Town of Branchville to the Orangeburg/Dorchester County line “Betty Henderson Highway” and erect appropriate markers or signs at this location containing this designation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Betty Henderson and forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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