**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF BETTY GYLES OF AIKEN COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER LOVING FAMILY AND HER MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Betty Gyles at the age of seventy‑five on Sunday, January 17, 2021; and

Whereas, she and her twin brother, Robert, were born on August 15, 1945, to the late Charlie Vaughns and Nossie Bell Dillard; and

Whereas, Ms. Gyles was formally educated in the Aiken County public schools, graduating from Martha Schofield High School in 1964. She then completed various courses in early childhood education with additional studies in cosmetology at Augusta Technical College; and

Whereas, in 1981, she began a long and successful career with the City of Aiken Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism at the Smith‑Hazel Recreational Center. During that time, she became a member of the department’s management team, meaningfully engaged with the youth and senior citizens of the Aiken community; and

Whereas, honored by numerous organizations locally and statewide, Ms. Gyles’ reputation as a well‑respected community leader and activist grew quickly, along with her love for Aiken, reflected in her many labors and accomplishments as a public servant there; and

Whereas, Ms. Gyles was a life‑long member of Friendship Baptist Church of Aiken. Other memberships included the Ethnic Minority Branch of the South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association, Aiken Black Historical Committee, Aiken Black History Parade Committee, and the Martha Schofield High School Alumni Association; and

Whereas, along with her twin brother, Dr. Robert Gyles of Manhattan, New York, she leaves one sister, Barbara Jean Dillard of Aiken, a devoted niece, Donna Bell of Greenville, and a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives to cherish her memory; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the life and legacy of Betty Gyles and for the example of diligence and public service she set for all who knew 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 passing of Betty Gyles of Aiken County extend their deepest sympathy to her loving family and her many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family ofBetty Gyles.

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