**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF RAVENEL STREET IN THE CITY OF FLORENCE FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH CHEVES STREET TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH PINE STREET “REVEREND DOCTOR NORMAN GAMBLE WAY” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS PORTION OF HIGHWAY CONTAINING THESE WORDS.

Whereas, Reverend Doctor Norman Gamble was born in Greelyville, South Carolina, a son of the late Sam and Hermenia Gamble. He attended the public schools of Williamsburg County, graduating from C.E. Murray High School and Williamsburg Technical College. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from Benedict College in Columbia, and a Master of Divinity from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in New York. He also received an honorary doctorate from Morris College in Sumter, where he served as a board member; and

Whereas, for the past twenty‑eight years Rev. Dr. Gamble has served as pastor of New Ebenezer Baptist Church in Florence, where his impeccable preaching and teaching skills have helped him shepherd his flock to greater heights; and

Whereas, under his leadership, the church has purchased new audio‑visual equipment, vans, a mini‑bus, and a forty‑five seat passenger bus, a baby grand piano, organ, parsonage, and rental properties; and

Whereas, New Ebenezer Baptist now enjoys two Sunday worship services, Bible Study has seen increased participation, and Rev. Dr. Gamble has established a scholarship fund which has given more than one hundred thousand dollars to qualified persons seeking a college education; and

Whereas, Pastor Gamble’s vision and leadership for a multipurpose facility to serve the community was realized in 2014 with the Strive Hard Educational, Recreational, and Enrichment Center. At thirty‑four thousand square feet, the center is used to serve meals for the homeless, as a polling site during elections, as a hurricane shelter and distribution site, and houses the School of Helps, offering a variety of self‑help classes from sign language to computers; and

Whereas, Rev. Dr. Gamble has served as a board member for Williamsburg County Schools for more than twenty years and received a number of awards for his many achievements; and

Whereas, he is married to Dr. La Dine⸍ Williams‑Gamble and together they are the parents of four children, Ty‑Esha, Cambridge, Na‑Dya, and Malcolm, who have blessed them with grandsons Landon and Tihler; and

Whereas, it would be fitting and proper to pay tribute to the accomplishments of this son of South Carolina by naming a portion of highway in Florence County in his honor. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, request that the Department of Transportation name the portion of Ravenel Street in the City of Florence from its intersection with Cheves Street to its intersection with Pine Street “Reverend Doctor Norman Gamble Way” 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.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑