**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. LAWRENCE L. ROUSE OF SUMTER, AND TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AS THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY, INC.

Whereas, a native of Sumter, Dr. Lawrence L. Rouse was born the son of the late Roy and Maple Rouse. Educated in the public school system, he is a graduate of Sumter High School. In pursuit of further education, he graduated cum laude with high honors from Voorhees College in 1978 with his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. He earned his Masters of Education in May of 1992 from the University of South Carolina, after which he was selected as one of four South Carolinians to receive a Kellogg ACCLAIM Fellowship to attend North Carolina State University, where he also received a National Leadership and Institutional Effectiveness Fellowship. He graduated from NC State University with his Doctorate of Education in Adult and Community College Education in May of 1998; and

Whereas, as a professional, Dr. Rouse has dedicated nearly four decades of his time, talents, and service towards the education of others. He currently serves as the fifth president of Pitt Community College in Winterville, NC, and has previously served as the president of James Sprunt Community College in Kenansville, NC; the Dean of Student Services for Johnston Community College in Smithfield, NC; the associate vice president for Enrollment Management at Central Carolina Technical College in Sumter; and a variety of other positions; and

Whereas, with great interest in being of service to others, Dr. Rouse is a member of a number of professional and civic organizations, including the North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents, of which he served as president; the Greenville Noon Rotary Club; the Greenville Chamber of Commerce; the Greenville Committee of 100; the United Way of Pitt County; the University of Mount Olive Board of Trustees; the NC State University Envisioning Excellence Advisory Board; the Greenville NC Economic Alliance; and most importantly, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.; and

Whereas, as the current Southeastern Regional Director of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Dr. Rouse has a variety of duties that he has shouldered with great success. He oversees the implementation of international programs in the Southeastern region; serves as a member of the General Board of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.; serves as a member and chaplain of the Regional Director’s Council; and serves on the Conclave Myrtle Beach Planning Committee, organizing the fraternity’s International Conclave for 2021; and

Whereas, Dr. Rouse has also overseen the membership growth of the Southeastern region reach over sixteen hundred brothers; planned and held a successful leadership conference in Charlotte, NC, which had record setting attendance; successfully implemented a fundraiser for regional COVID‑19 and disaster relief, which raised over thirteen thousand dollars to aid brothers in the Southeastern region; successfully implemented a fundraiser for the region’s Dr. Dudley E. Flood Foundation, which raised over six thousand dollars for collegiate scholarships; held the first virtual regional conference and regional leadership conference, due to the COVID‑19 pandemic; and updated the branding of the Southeastern region; and

Whereas, Dr. Lawrence L. Rouse’s efforts throughout his life have greatly impacted his community and bettered the lives of students in higher education. The members of the House of Representatives wish to pause and recognize his many personal achievements, applaud his invaluable efforts, and honor the sacrifices he makes for the betterment of others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor the achievements of Dr. Lawrence L. Rouse of Sumter, and commend him for his leadership as the Southeastern Regional Director of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Lawrence L. Rouse.

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