**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY FOR ITS MANY AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION AND CULTURE OF OUR CITIZENS AND TO DECLARE MARCH 23, 2022, AS “SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciate the outstanding opportunities that South Carolina State (SC State) University affords to the Palmetto State and to our citizens; and

Whereas, founded in 1896 as a land‑grant college, South Carolina State University is the State’s sole public, historically black college and university (HBCU) and has played a key role in the education of African Americans in our great State and nation; and

Whereas, South Carolina State University enrolls more than twenty‑nine hundred students and is committed to providing affordable and accessible quality baccalaureate, master’s educational specialist, and doctoral degree programs. Through instruction, research, technology, and service, SC State contributes to economic development, enhances the quality of life of citizens, and prepares highly skilled, competent, and socially aware graduates to meet life’s challenges and demands and enables them to work and live productively in a dynamic, global society; and

Whereas, with more than thirty thousand alumni, upwards of eighteen thousand have stayed in South Carolina. From college presidents to minority officers in the U.S. Army to political leaders and judges, the University has a long history of producing high achievers who have distinguished themselves in a variety of fields. Among its notable alumni are the Honorable James E. Clyburn, United States Representative and House majority whip; General Clifford Stanley, former Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness of the United States; and the Honorable Donald Beatty, Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court; and

Whereas, the SC State Bulldog football team captured the HBCU national title at the 2021 Cricket Celebration Bowl when they defeated Jackson State University 31‑10 in Atlanta this past December. The last time SC State won an HBCU national football championship was 2009; and

Whereas, upon invitation from U.S. Representative James Clyburn, President Joe Biden traveled to the Palmetto State to deliver the commencement address at the University’s graduation ceremony on December 17, 2021. The graduation marked Biden’s first visit to South Carolina since taking office in January 2021; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives value the commitment of the State’s only public HBCU to continued academic and educational excellence, affordability, and availability to the citizens of our great State. 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 South Carolina State University for its many and significant contributions to the education and culture of our citizens and declare March 23, 2022, as “South Carolina State University Day” in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Alexander Conyers, interim president of South Carolina State University.

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