



Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University  
Huntsville, Alabama

# Resolution

Presented in Tribute to a True Normalite, Faithful Servant  
and Proud, Distinguished Daughter of the William Hooper Council Legacy

## Willie Mae Pearson Butler

**WHEREAS**, Willie Mae Pearson Butler was born in Hamlet, North Carolina, to Willie and Ila Pearson on December 31, 1925, and excelled academically in the public school system of Tampa, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, early on in her years, Willie Mae Pearson Butler demonstrated an aptitude and talent for a variety of interests, including drama, debating, journalism, choral music and foreign languages; and

**WHEREAS**, Willie Mae Pearson Butler, throughout her entire life, also was heavily involved in the noble affairs of the church, enjoying affiliation with several religious ministries, including music, visitation, and several others; and

**WHEREAS**, Willie Mae Pearson Butler met the love of her life, Rev. Robert Lewis Butler, while she was a freshman at Spelman College and as he attended Morehouse College; then married on September 2, 1945; and, together, they completed baccalaureate studies at Oberlin College in Ohio; and

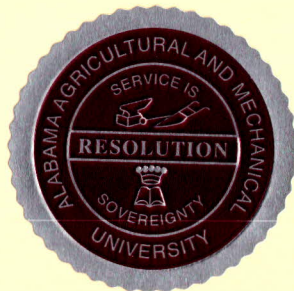
**WHEREAS**, Willie Mae Pearson Butler's success in teaching physical education in the public schools in Huntsville and Madison County in the 1950s led to her being hired as an assistant professor of physical education at historic Alabama A&M University, a post she held for more than 40 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Willie Mae Pearson Butler, a sought-after advisor to Olympians, held memberships in numerous associations and organizations, becoming the first black female to be inducted into the Huntsville/Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame, as well as the first woman to be inducted into the Alabama A&M University Athletic Hall of Fame ...

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the students, faculty, staff, administration, Board of Trustees, First Lady, friends and alumni of this great institution, founded in 1875, do hereby mourn the death—but also celebrate the life—of a true and loyal example of the rich and storied legacy of Alabama A&M University and its Founder, Dr. William Hooper Council, and do hereby acknowledge the decades of service rendered by Willie Mae Pearson Butler, as well as her lasting impact on health and physical education, the community at large, friends, church and others over the decades; and ...

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution shall be presented to the Family of Willie Mae Pearson Butler as a testament to the University's warm gratitude for having been made a part of her incredible life's journey, which has paved the way for thousands through her words and deeds, and that copies of this document shall be placed in the University Archives as a permanent record of her ceaseless devotion, spirit, and unwavering loyalty to this institution.

Given This First Day of October, Two Thousand and Fifteen



*Andrew Hugine, Jr.*

Andrew Hugine, Jr., Ph.D.  
President, Alabama A&M University