**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO DESIGNATE MAY 5, 2010, AS “SOUTH CAROLINA CLEAN HANDS DAY”, AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO RECOGNIZE DAILY THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPER HAND HYGIENE TO REDUCE AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFECTIONS AND TO DISCUSS PROPER HAND HYGIENE WITH FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.

Whereas, proper hand hygiene is the most important activity for preventing the spread of infections and saving lives; and

Whereas, on May 5, 2010, the World Health Organization in a global initiative called “Save Lives: Clean Your Hands” is issuing a call to action to invite health care workers, health care facilities, and health care organizations throughout the world to campaign actively for improved hand hygiene at the point of care to reduce infections associated with health care and to demonstrate their commitment to this global movement; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control has partnered with hand hygiene at a national level in the United States, underscoring the vital importance of this issue; and

Whereas, South Carolina was the first state to commit fully to the “Save Lives: Clean Your Hands” global initiative; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Hospital Association, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Palmetto Chapter of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, the South Carolina Chapter of Health Occupations Students of America, the South Carolina Department of Education, Mothers Against Medical Error, and the American Association of Retired Persons as partners have established the South Carolina Clean Hands Campaign to promote the importance of hand hygiene throughout the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, through the South Carolina Clean Hands Campaign, hospitals, schools, health departments, and other organizations have come together to promote actively the issue of hand hygiene throughout our South Carolina communities. Consequently, South Carolina residents from infants to retirees have learned how to properly wash and clean their hands, thereby preventing numerous infections and saving lives. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, designate May 5, 2010, as “South Carolina Clean Hands Day”, and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize daily the importance of proper hand hygiene to reduce and prevent the spread of infections and to discuss proper hand hygiene with families, friends, and health care providers.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the South Carolina Hospital Association, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Palmetto Chapter of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, the South Carolina Chapter of Health Occupations Students of America, the South Carolina Department of Education, Mothers Against Medical Error, and the American Association of Retired Persons.

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