COMMITTEE REPORT

April 26, 2012

**S. 1414**

Introduced by Senator Thomas

S. Printed 4/26/12--H.

Read the first time April 24, 2012.

**THE COMMITTEE ON**

**INVITATIONS AND MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS**

To whom was referred a Concurrent Resolution (S. 1414) to recognize the month of April 2012 as “Zero Tolerance for Litter Month” in South Carolina, and to ask all of our citizens and law enforcement officers to work together, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass:

LISTON D. BARFIELD for Committee.

**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF APRIL 2012 AS “ZERO TOLERANCE FOR LITTER MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO ASK ALL OF OUR CITIZENS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO WORK TOGETHER THIS MONTH AND THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR A CLEANER COMMUNITY, THUS PRESERVING THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF OUR COMMUNITY, OUR STATE, AND OUR COUNTRY.

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina appreciate the outstanding contribution of PalmettoPride’s “Zero Tolerance for Litter” Campaign to maintain the pristine beauty of South Carolina’s natural resources and the protection and safety of its communities; and

Whereas, the State of South Carolina has an abundance of natural resources, including old‑growth forests, miles of shoreline, rolling hills, and scenic mountains, and the deleterious effects of littering on these natural resources impact all South Carolinians as it detracts from tourism, economic development, areas of commerce, and real estate values; and

Whereas, littering and illegal dumping effects community safety, the overall quality of life for citizens, and natural resources and the environment, causing contamination of soil and water, harm to animals, and additional fuel load in fires; and

Whereas, littering is illegal and is a crime against nature and citizens of this State; and

Whereas, at all times, and especially during the “Zero Tolerance For Litter Month”, citizens are urged to stridently follow the litter laws of this State, thereby setting a good example for others to follow, reinforcing law abiding behavior, and demonstrating community pride; and

Whereas, in order to support the outstanding work of protecting quality of life for all South Carolinians carried out by law enforcement agencies in the State, PalmettoPride has provided South Carolina law enforcement officers with grants, resources, and training and has awarded more than one thousand grants to schools, enforcement agencies, local governments, and community‑improvement organizations; and

Whereas, law enforcement has a stellar record of providing protection to all South Carolinians from daily threats to safety and well being, including protection from the dangers of litter on our state’s roads and highways, in our state forests and parks, and in our communities;

Whereas, the role of law enforcement officers is vital to all efforts to keep our state free from litter by their rigorous enforcement of the litter laws and by bringing offenders before the courts for meting out penalties; and

Whereas, law enforcement deserves and is strengthened by the recognition of its role and by the cooperation of all South Carolinians, judges, and local and state government in helping to achieve the goal of keeping South Carolina beautiful, clean, and litter-free. Now therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize the month of April 2012 as “Zero Tolerance for Litter Month” in South Carolina, and urge all South Carolinians and all branches of government to work in cooperation with law enforcement agencies across the state this month, but also throughout the year, for a cleaner, litter-free State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to PalmettoPride.

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