**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO PROCLAIM JUNE 1‑7, 2014 AS “CPR AND AED AWARENESS WEEK” AND TO COMMEND THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION, THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, AND THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL FOR PROMOTING CPR AND AED AWARENESS TO THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, heart disease is the leading cause of death in America and affects men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States; and

Whereas, approximately 424,000 out‑of‑hospital instances of cardiac arrest occur annually. Nine out of ten of these victims will not survive. Only forty‑one percent of out‑of‑hospital cardiac arrest victims receive bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); and

Whereas, prompt delivery of CPR more than doubles the victim’s chance of survival by helping maintain blood flow to the heart and brain, increasing the amount of time in which an electric shock from a defibrillator may be effective; and

Whereas, an automated external defibrillator (AED) is safe, easy to operate, and, if used immediately after the onset of sudden cardiac arrest, is highly effective in restarting the heart; and

Whereas, for every minute without CPR, survival from cardiac arrest decreases seven to ten percent. The interval between the 911 telephone call and the arrival of emergency medical service personnel may be longer than five minutes. Therefore, a cardiac arrest victim’s survival is likely to depend on a bystander trained in CPR who has access to a lifesaving AED; and

Whereas, the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, and the National Safety Council are preparing a public awareness and training campaign on CPR and AED use to be held during the first week of June; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the efforts of these groups to raise awareness of life saving techniques to combat the nationwide epidemic of heart disease. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the House of Representatives, by this resolution, proclaim June 1‑7, 2014 as “CPR and AED Awareness Week” and commend the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, and the National Safety Council for promoting CPR and AED awareness to the citizens of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, and the National Safety Council.

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