**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE NOVEMBER 2013 THE PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AWARENESS MONTH IN SOUTH CAROLINA TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF THE GROWING RISK OF PULMONARY HYPERTENSION IN THE UNITED STATES.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate recognizes that the health of our community’s people is the foundation for a caring and productive society, and our future rests with our ability to adequately treat, and ultimately find cures for, individuals who are afflicted with a variety of illnesses, including pulmonary hypertension; and

Whereas, pulmonary hypertension (PH) is a rare disorder causing intolerable blood pressure levels in the arteries between the lungs and heart; and

Whereas, in 2001, there were 3,000 PH patients receiving treatment from 100 PH treating‑physicians. In 2006, those numbers had grown to an estimated 30,000 diagnosed patients and 3,000 treating physicians; and

Whereas, there are at least as many undiagnosed as diagnosed patients; and

Whereas, without treatment, PH patients live an average of 2.8 years past diagnosis. With early diagnosis and effective treatment, the disorder can be managed for twenty years or more; and

Whereas, education can help with early diagnosis and funding for research can help find a cure; and

Whereas, the Pulmonary Hypertension Association is a nonprofit organization that seeks ways to prevent and cure pulmonary hypertension, and to provide hope for the PH community through support, education, advocacy, and awareness;

Whereas, to recognize the seriousness of pulmonary hypertension, the South Carolina Senate wishes to recognize November 2013 as “Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month” throughout the Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, declares November 2013 as “Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month” in South Carolina to promote the understanding of the growing risk of pulmonary hypertension in the United States.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Pulmonary Hypertension Association.

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