**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO CREATE THE “SEIZURE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS STUDY COMMITTEE” TO EXAMINE ISSUES RELATED TO EPILEPSY AND SEIZURE SAFETY AWARENESS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY COMMITTEE’S TERMINATION.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly finds that approximately 326,000 American children under the age of fifteen have epilepsy; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly finds thousands of South Carolina students, families, teachers, school administrators, and staff are impacted by students who have epilepsy; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly finds an understanding of epilepsy, seizures, seizure responses, and academic support is necessary to ensure the safety and educational achievement of students who have epilepsy. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. (A) There is created the “Seizure Safety in Schools Study Committee.” The study committee shall review information concerning:

(1) the state of epilepsy awareness among public school teachers, staff, and administrators;

(2) basic training in seizure response appropriate for public school teachers, staff, and administrators;

(3) existing laws, regulations, and policies affecting epilepsy and seizure safety in public schools; and

(4) other areas related to epilepsy and seizure safety in public schools that the committee considers necessary and relevant to its work.

(B) The study committee must be composed of fourteen members, consisting of the following:

(1) the State Superintendent of Education or his designee;

(2) the Director of the Department of Health and Environmental Control or his designee;

(3) the Chairperson of the House of Representatives Committee on Education and Public Works or his designee;

(4) the Chairperson of the Senate Education Committee or his designee;

(5) the Chairperson of the House of Representatives Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee or his designee;

(6) the Chairperson of the Senate Medical Affairs Committee or his designee;

(7) the Chairperson of the South Carolina Board of Nursing or his designee;

(8) the Chairperson of the South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners or his designee;

(9) a licensee of the South Carolina Board of Nursing appointed by the board;

(10) a public school administrator appointed by the State Superintendent of Education;

(11) a physician licensed by the South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners who practices pediatric neurology, appointed by the board;

(12) a director of a children’s hospital appointed by the Governor;

(13) a parent of a public school student appointed by the Governor; and

(14) a representative from a statewide organization that supports families of children who have special medical needs appointed by the Governor.

(C) The Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall provide staffing for the study committee.

(D) Before January 31, 2017, the study committee shall make a report of the committee’s recommendations to the General Assembly at which time the study committee must be dissolved.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑