**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND DAN BRACKEN AND TREY INGRAM OF SPEAK UP: VOICES FOR FOSTER CARE REFORM AND DAVID WHITE OF FOSTERING GREAT IDEAS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK IN IMPROVING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE AND TO EXTEND SINCERE BEST WISHES FOR MUCH SUCCESS IN ALL THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn of the fine work done by Dan Bracken and Trey Ingram of Speak Up: Voices for Foster Care Reform and David White of Fostering Great Ideas; and

Whereas, Speak Up: Voices for Foster Care Reform is a grass‑roots effort relying upon the collective voices of passionate citizens working together to highlight common‑sense solutions for improving the foster care system in South Carolina; and

Whereas, the guiding principles of Speak Up are these:

1. The more we listen to children in foster care, the better the system of care will be.

2. Children’s voices need to be amplified. We provide a platform for more dialogue and action; and

Whereas, inaugurated in 2015 as an initiative of Fostering Great Ideas (FGI), Speak Up is led by Mr. Bracken and Mr. Ingram as volunteer directors. Mr. White is FGI’s founder and CEO; and

Whereas, FGI is a non‑profit dedicated to improving the lives of children as they struggle in foster care, offers initiatives to help children in foster care heal emotionally and succeed in life. The organization has a vision for all children in foster care to feel valued and cared for during a time of stress and uncertainty; and

Whereas, the efforts of Dan Bracken, Trey Ingram, and David White have helped create several laws that assist children in foster care. These acts are as follows:

H.4546, 2015‑2016: Normalcy‑‑an act to enable children in foster care to have more normal childhood experiences while in care.

H.4510, 2015‑2016: Max 5‑‑an act to increase the number of foster homes available in South Carolina by allowing larger families to provide foster care.

H.3701, 2017‑2018: Kinship Care‑‑an act to better enable relatives of children in foster care to become licensed Kinship Caregivers so as to receive the same benefits and support as foster parents.

H.3699, 2017‑2018: Confidentiality‑‑an act to improve quality of care for children in foster care by increasing the information provided confidentially to their caregivers.

S.805, 2017‑2018: The Child Advocate Bill‑‑an act to create the Office of the State Child Advocate to investigate and report on critical incidents involving children and certain state agencies and to administer the Foster Care Review Board and Guardian ad Litem program; and

Whereas, grateful for their dedicated labors on behalf of children in foster care, the House takes great pleasure in honoring Dan Bracken and Trey Ingram of Speak Up: Voices for Foster Care Reform and David White of Fostering Great Ideas. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend Dan Bracken and Trey Ingram of Speak Up: Voices for Foster Care Reform and David White of Fostering Great Ideas for their outstanding work in improving the lives of children in foster care and to extend sincere best wishes for much success in all their future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dan Bracken, Trey Ingram, and David White.

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