**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND THE LINKS, INCORPORATED FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO RECOGNIZE THE ORANGEBURG CHAPTER OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR HOSTING LINKS DAY AT THE CAPITOL ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2018.

Whereas, the members of the Senate of South Carolina find it altogether fitting and proper to pause in their deliberations to honor the organization The Links, Incorporated for their exemplary work in the community; and

Whereas, The Links, Incorporated is an international, nonprofit corporation established in 1946. Its membership consists of nearly fourteen thousand professional women of color in two hundred eighty‑five chapters located in forty‑one states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. It is one of the nation’s oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of extraordinary women committed to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry; and

Whereas, the members of The Links, Incorporated are influential decision makers and opinion leaders. It has attracted many distinguished women who are individual achievers and have made a difference in their communities and the world. They are business and civic leaders, role models, mentors, activists, and volunteers who work towards a common vision by engaging with like‑minded organizations and individuals for partnership. Links members contribute more than nine hundred fifty thousand documented hours of community service annually, strengthening their communities and enhancing the nation. The organization is the recipient of awards from the UN Association of New York and the Leon H. Sullivan Foundation for its premier programs; and

Whereas, the outstanding programs of The Links, Incorporated have five facets that include services to youth, the arts, national trends and services, international trends and services, and health and human services. The programs are implemented through strategies such as public information and education, economic development, and public policy campaigns; and

Whereas, Links Day at the Capitol (LDAC) is an advocacy project of the southern area of The Links, Incorporated. Annually, on one day during the spring legislative session, its members visit each of the seven state capitals located in the southern area. Links Day at the Capitol provides the opportunity for members to present policy agendas to elected representatives and work with them to integrate these issues into the state’s legislative priorities. South Carolina chapters represented include Aiken, Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, Hilton Head, Orangeburg, and Spartanburg; and

Whereas, this year, the Orangeburg chapter of The Links, Incorporated, which was chartered on December 5, 1964, is the host for the annual South Carolina Links Day at the Capitol to be held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018. This year the theme is “A Call to Action: Addressing the Factors Impacting Health Care of South Carolinians”. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of South Carolina, by this resolution, commend The Links, Incorporated for their service to the community and recognize the Orangeburg Chapter of the organization for hosting Links Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the members of The Links, Incorporated.

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