**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE FEBRUARY 2018 AS “AMERICAN HEART MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO PROMOTE HEART DISEASE AWARENESS TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE.

Whereas, heart disease is the second leading cause of death in South Carolina, affecting men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States; and

Whereas, in 2016, hospital admissions from heart disease in South Carolina reached over 51,000; and

Whereas, costs due to these hospitalizations reached over $3.4 billion; and

Whereas, about eighty percent of cardiovascular diseases may be prevented; and

Whereas, nearly two out of every five South Carolinians have high blood pressure, which is a major controllable risk factor for heart disease; and

Whereas, the American Heart Association encourages all South Carolinians to learn their family history and to meet with a healthcare provider to determine their risk for cardiovascular diseases and stroke; and

Whereas, South Carolinians are further encouraged to take control of their heart health by knowing five numbers that can be life changing: total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol or “good cholesterol,” blood pressure, blood sugar, and body mass index or BMI; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the commitment of the American Heart Association to the people and the State of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize February 2018 as “American Heart Month” in South Carolina and promote heart disease awareness to the citizens of this State.

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