**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE GREEN PURCHASING INITIATIVE BEGUN IN THE FALL OF 2008, AND TO ENCOURAGE THE STATEWIDE ADOPTION OF THE INITIATIVE’S POLICIES.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the efforts of the Green Purchasing Initiative. Since its inception in 2008, the initiative has set out to preserve the beauty and purity of our great State; and

Whereas, seeking to reduce further environmental and human health impacts of state operations, the initiative has given South Carolina’s state government the task of integrating environmental considerations into its procurement process; and

Whereas, the initiative has facilitated this effort by defining environmentally preferred purchasing, identifying desired environmental attributes that need to be protected, balancing environmental considerations with performance, cost, and availability, and educating and promoting standards to purchasers; and

Whereas, the goals of the Green Purchasing Initiative include prevention of pollution and waste, elimination or reduction of toxins, conservation of energy and water, giving preference to recycled‑content material, and reduction of emissions; and

Whereas, the policy of the initiative recognizes the need to improve green‑purchasing practices within state agencies when practicable and cost effective without reducing the safety or performance of a product or service; and

Whereas, South Carolina state government is committed to environmentally preferred purchasing in recognition of the need for all of our citizens to use natural resources more efficiently, to reduce waste, to save money, to sustain markets for materials collected in recycling programs, and to protect South Carolina’s environment; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the statewide efforts set forth in the Green Purchasing Initiative to preserve the natural health and prosperity of our State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and commend the Green Purchasing Initiative begun in the fall of 2008, and encourage the statewide adoption of the initiative’s policies.

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