**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009, AS “SOUTH CAROLINA RECYCLERS DAY,” AND TO COMMEND AND RECOGNIZE SOUTH CAROLINA’S RECYCLERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR STATE’S ECONOMY AND FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

Whereas, recycling in South Carolina protects the environment, conserves natural resources, promotes energy efficiency, and supports economic development; and

Whereas, the recycling industry generated $1.1 billion in revenue and created approximately one thousand four hundred jobs for the State of South Carolina in 2008; and

Whereas, the upgrading and processing of recycled materials adds $6.5 billion annually to the State’s economy. In addition, South Carolina’s recycling industry will increase approximately twelve percent annually during the next five years, with an economic impact of more than $11 billion; and

Whereas, in South Carolina, the recycling industry is directly responsible for more than fifteen thousand jobs, $1.5 billion in annual personal income, and $69 million in tax revenue each year; and

Whereas, reprocessing used materials to make new products and packaging reduces the consumption of natural resources; and

Whereas, through the recognition and promotion of the economic, energy, and environmental benefits of recycling, South Carolina’s recycling industry will grow, thereby creating efficient market‑based solutions to the growing energy crisis and ensuring a clean, safe, abundant, and stable energy supply to the citizens of this State for years to come; and

Whereas, the significant energy benefits of recycling provide greater diversity and reliability to the South Carolina energy grid while protecting our natural resources. Manufacturing recycled products requires, on average, seventeen times less energy than manufacturing the same products from virgin materials. In 2007, the energy saved from recycling reached 900 trillion BTUs nationwide, or the amount of energy used by nine million American households. As such, in addition to the traditionally understood benefits of recycling as a conservation and waste‑management tool, recycling is becoming known as an energy source to help combat the nation’s growing energy crisis. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare Tuesday, April 21, 2009, as “South Carolina Recyclers Day,” and commend and recognize South Carolina’s recyclers for their contributions to our State’s economy and for their efforts to protect the environment and promote energy efficiency.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Gerry Fishbeck, United Resource Recovery Corporation, and chairman, Recycling Market Development Advisory Council; Mike Gipko, Nucor Steel--South Carolina and Carolina Recycling Association’s Business and Industry Council; and Gary Bilbro, interim executive director, Carolina Recycling Association.

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