**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO MEMORIALIZE THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA) TO CHOOSE COLUMBIA AS A HOST CITY FOR AN NCAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT REGIONAL GAME OR THE FINAL FOUR.

Whereas, the City of Columbia, South Carolina, is ideally and uniquely situated to be a host city for the NCAA basketball tournament; and

Whereas, Columbia is the site of the Colonial Life Arena, which opened in 2002 as the largest arena in this State and the tenth largest on‑campus facility in the nation; and

Whereas, nearly eighteen thousand fans have a close‑to‑the‑action seat, thanks to the arena’s intimate double‑deck design, or they can follow the action on the scoreboard’s four high definition video screens; and

Whereas, the citizens of Columbia and across the State are knowledgeable and loyal collegiate basketball fans, having been blessed with a legacy of winning programs over the years at many of South Carolina’s public and private institutions of higher learning and a reputation for producing top‑notch professional players; and

Whereas, the City of Columbia is easy to access by interstate highway, air, or rail and is a pleasure to visit with its gracious Southern hospitality; and

Whereas, as a host city for the NCAA basketball tournament, Columbia would offer a complete package to the NCAA and to the visiting fans. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, memorialize the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to choose Columbia as a host city for an NCAA basketball tournament regional game or the Final Four.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

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