**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE GROWING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM OF TUBERCULOSIS, INCLUDING ITS IMPACT ON SOUTH CAROLINA, TO AFFIRM THE IMPORTANCE OF WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY, AND TO DECLARE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010, “TUBERCULOSIS DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, tuberculosis is the greatest infectious killer of women, the greatest killer of people with HIV/AIDS, and the greatest infectious killer of youth and adults worldwide; and

Whereas, the World Health Organization estimates that one third of the world’s population is infected with the bacteria that cause tuberculosis; and

Whereas, it is estimated that ten to fifteen million individuals are infected with tuberculosis bacteria in the United States alone; and

Whereas, worldwide, at least one person is infected with tuberculosis every second; and

Whereas, worldwide, approximately eight million people become sick with tuberculosis each year; and

Whereas, two million people die of tuberculosis every year, one person every fifteen seconds; and

Whereas, most cases of tuberculosis and deaths caused by tuberculosis occur among individuals between the ages of fifteen and forty‑four, the most economically productive years of life; and

Whereas, few other infectious diseases create as many orphans as tuberculosis; and

Whereas, tuberculosis rates are substantially higher for minorities in the United States, due to socioeconomic factors such as high unemployment, low median income, and poor living conditions; and

Whereas, the threat of tuberculosis to the health of Americans consists of two elements: the global spread of the disease and the emergence and spread of strains of tuberculosis that are multidrug‑resistant; and

Whereas, tuberculosis is spreading as a result of inadequate treatment, and it is a disease that knows no national boundaries. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize the growing international problem of tuberculosis, including its impact on South Carolina, affirm the importance of World Tuberculosis Day, and declare Wednesday, March 24, 2010, “Tuberculosis Day” in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Richland County Tuberculosis Association.

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