**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO THE RATE INCREASE REQUEST IN RETAIL ELECTRIC RATES THAT THE SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY PLANS TO REQUEST IN MAY OR JUNE OF THIS YEAR.

Whereas, South Carolina is presently suffering one of the worst economic climates in its history; and

Whereas, December’s unemployment rate in South Carolina was 12.3 percent, one of the highest in the nation; and

Whereas, presently South Carolina and Electric and Gas Company’s (SCE&G) current cost of electricity for a residential customer is the highest of the state’s major electric companies; and

Whereas, the announcement by SCE&G runs counter to the national pricing trend of electric rates; and

Whereas, the federal Energy Information Administration has projected that energy costs are going down with the cost of coal and natural gas expected to fall during the year 2010; and

Whereas, in light of these unprecedented economic times, SCE&G should not make a rate increase request to help customers recover from the stress the economy has placed on customers’ jobs, families, and lives. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives express their opposition to the rate increase request in retail electric rates that the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company plans to request in May or June of this year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President and CEO of SCANA Corporation, the corporate parent of SCE&G.

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