**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO AFFIRM SOUTH CAROLINA’S DEDICATION TO THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF ITS YOUNG PEOPLE AND TO THE PREVENTION OF TEEN PREGNANCY AND TO DECLARE MAY 2012 AS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH IN THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly call upon all citizens of South Carolina to assist in increasing our state’s awareness and understanding of the problem of teen pregnancy; and

Whereas, teen pregnancies have far‑reaching consequences that adversely affect the health, education, and economic future of South Carolina’s young people; and

Whereas, in 2010, more than six thousand young girls ages 15 through 19 gave birth in our state; and

Whereas, teen birth rates in South Carolina decreased by 26 percent between 2000 and 2010 and, within that period, decreased by 13 percent between 2009 and 2010, placing on record the lowest teen birth rate for girls ages 15 through 19 ever recorded in South Carolina; and

Whereas, however, the progress in teen birth‑rate reductions that saved South Carolina taxpayers an estimated $127 million in 2008 alone should not suggest decreases in commitment to, and investment in, this issue; and

Whereas, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is an opportunity for parents, teens, educators, program providers, faith‑based organizations, local elected leaders, and statewide policymakers to work together to reduce and prevent teen pregnancy in South Carolina; and

Whereas, it is entirely appropriate for the members of the South Carolina General Assembly to encourage the citizens of South Carolina to consider these matters, which are so critically related to achieving and maintaining good health, as well as to enjoying a successful adult life. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, affirm South Carolina’s dedication to the future success of its young people and to the prevention of teen pregnancy and declare May 2012 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑