**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE GREENVILLE COUNTY ENFORCING UNDERAGE DRINKING LAWS COALITION FOR ITS SUCCESS IN REDUCING UNDERAGE DRINKING AND YOUTH ACCESS TO ALCOHOL IN GREENVILLE COUNTY AND TO CONGRATULATE ALL ITS PARTICIPANTS FOR RECEIVING A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION TO CONDUCT THE *UNDERAGE DRINKING. ADULT CONSEQUENCES* CAMPAIGN.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to learn that the Greenville County Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Coalition (Greenville County EUDL) has been dedicated to reducing underage drinking and to reducing youth access to alcohol in the county for almost a decade; and

Whereas, costing South Carolina an estimated $1.1 billion annually, underage alcohol consumption also resulted in more than seven hundred fifty deaths in the State in automobile crashes between 2006 and 2010; and

Whereas, the coalition is composed of representatives from Greenville County law enforcement, law enforcement from all municipalities in Greenville County, South Carolina Highway Patrol, Greenville County schools, Greenville health and human services agencies, The Phoenix Center (the legislated authority on substance abuse for Greenville County), and community volunteers. In its near decade of existence, the coalition has received numerous awards for its success in conducting compliance checks and reducing the rate of illegal sales to underage people in Greenville County; and

Whereas, recognized as a leader in the State in the number of compliance checks it makes to ascertain if merchants sell illegally to persons under twenty‑one years of age, Greenville County EUDL, with the cooperation of the local law‑enforcement officers, has demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing youth access to alcohol in Greenville County; and

Whereas, the underage buy rate from merchants in Greenville County at the time of the coalition’s creation was forty‑five percent, and by 2011, the youth buy rate from merchants had been reduced to approximately twelve percent; and

Whereas, Greenville County EUDL successfully created the Multi‑jurisdictional Alcohol Enforcement Team Unit that enforces laws which prohibit underage drinking through compliance checks, party patrols, and traffic sobriety checks. In 2011, approximately one thousand and eight hundred such compliance checks were conducted in the county; and

Whereas, in 2012, the coalition became one of only four such coalitions in the nation to receive a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration grant. The $340,000 grant was used to conduct a high visibility enforcement campaign called *Underage Drinking. Adult Consequences*, aimed at cracking down on underage drinkers, underage drinking and driving, and adults who provide alcohol to those who are underage; and

Whereas, with a goal of saving lives in South Carolina, Greenville County EUDL, along with local law enforcement, conducted the first of six waves of the *Underage Drinking. Adult Consequences* campaign in April of this year. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Greenville County Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Coalition for its success in reducing underage drinking and youth access to alcohol in Greenville County and congratulate all its participants for receiving a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to conduct the *Underage Drinking. Adult Consequences* campaign.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Curtis Reece, Chairman of the Greenville County Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Coalition.

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