**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE WEEK OF MAY 1ST THROUGH MAY 7TH AS NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL WEEK, AND TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATING THE CHILDREN OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN INNOVATIVE CLASSROOMS AND SCHOOLS.

Whereas, the first charter school law was enacted in Minnesota in 1991. By 1992, the first charter school opened and continues to teach youths in an innovative and flexible fashion; and

Whereas, forty states and the District of Columbia have charter schools, numbering nearly five thousand schools in operation and an enrollment of over one million six hundred thousand students; and

Whereas, in 1996, South Carolina enacted the charter school law, and further amended it in 2002 and 2005. Currently, South Carolina has forty‑four public charter schools that serve over sixteen thousand children. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize May 1st through May 7th as National Charter School Week, and acknowledge the importance of educating the children of South Carolina in innovative classrooms and schools.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to State Superintendent of Education Mick Zais, Mr. Don McLaurin, Chairman of the South Carolina Public Charter School District Board of Directors, and Ms. Mary Carmichael, Executive Director of the Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina.

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