**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE MAY 22, 2012, AS DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE DELETERIOUS EFFECTS OF NERVE DAMAGE DUE TO DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY.

Whereas, in the United States, it is estimated that 23.6 million people, 7.8 percent of the total population, are affected by diabetes; and

Whereas, the American Diabetes Association estimates that more than half of all people with diabetes suffer from diabetic peripheral neuropathy; and

Whereas, diabetic peripheral neuropathy is a serious condition that damages nerve fibers due to prolonged exposure to high amounts of glucose in the bloodstream; and

Whereas, diabetic peripheral neuropathy often causes intense pain, frequently described as aching, tingling, burning, and numbness of the feet, which can result in serious foot problems due to nerve damage; and

Whereas, although it can hurt, diabetic nerve damage can also lessen the ability to feel pain, heat, and cold, which means that diabetic patients may not feel a foot injury or even a stone in their shoe or a nail in their foot; and

Whereas, the rate of amputees in people with diabetes is ten times higher than in people without the disease, and studies show that more than sixty percent of nontraumatic lower-extremity amputations are due to diabetic peripheral neuropathy; and

Whereas, it is vital that South Carolinians with diabetes be aware of the dangers and warning signs of diabetic peripheral neuropathy and make healthy lifestyle choices to prevent the onset of this life‑changing condition. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize May 22, 2012, as Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy Day at the State Capitol to raise awareness of the deleterious effects of nerve damage due to diabetic peripheral neuropathy.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the South Carolina chapter of the American Diabetes Association.

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